

No 62,286

THE TIMES  
1785-1985  
Tomorrow

Playing with fire  
Has Bonfire Night  
really become  
less dangerous?

Bloomsbury style  
Fashion turns to  
Vita Sackville-West  
for inspiration  
Privately, old boy...  
Miles Kingston on  
the advantages  
of double-speak  
Chad's chances  
David Miller finds  
sport thriving in  
the war-torn republic

## Portfolio

Two readers shared the Times Portfolio weekly prize of £40,000 - double the usual amount because no-one won the previous weekend. Mr Henry Stephens of Welwyn Garden City, Herts., and Mr R Beaman of Gillingham, Kent, each receive £20,000. The daily prize of £2,000 was won on Saturday by Mrs Rosa Bacon of London, Essex. Portfolio list page 20, rules, Information Service, back page.

## Sinn Fein in fear of Ulster deal

The Provisional Sinn Fein leadership expressed fears that an Anglo-Irish agreement on Ulster will be the prelude to an attempt to crush the movement on both sides of the border.

## Natural heart drugs hope

A new range of drugs, developed from natural chemicals at Hammersmith Hospital, could prevent or treat many serious cardiac conditions by controlling the flow of blood to the heart.

## Reagan tribute

President Reagan pays tribute to the late Editor of The Times, Mr Charles Douglas-Horne.

## JMB sale hope

The Bank of England hopes that the sale of Johnson Matthey Bankers will repay most of the £150 million used to save it from collapse.

## Refugee protest

Indonesia is to protest to Vietnam over the unending flow of boat people fleeing from the 10-year-old communist regime.

## Jailbreak foiled

An attempted breakout by six prisoners at Peterhead prison in Scotland was foiled when seven prison staff held hostage in a barricaded cell block were rescued by colleagues.

## Royal tour ends

The Queen yesterday ended a Caribbean tour that forcibly brought home the dominance of the United States in the former British West Indies.

## McGuigan bout

Barry McGuigan will challenge Wilfredo Gomez, of Puerto Rico, for the world super-featherweight championship in the United States in March or April.

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SPECIAL REPORT  
The need for services to support British exporters is greater than ever as they face the rigours of world markets. Pages 15-19

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Leading articles: Mr Shultz in Moscow, Hungary  
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Fowler reform doubts; Bernard Levin on faith crimes; Chinese writers come out of the cold; illegitimacy and the law; Apartheid dissected  
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# Notts Labour MPs fear expulsion of breakaway miners

By Craig Seton and Julian Haviland

Prominent Labour Party members in Nottinghamshire were yesterday angered by comments from Mr John Prescott, Labour front bench spokesman on employment, who appeared to them to contemplate wholesale expulsion of the party of members of the new anti-Scargill miners' union, the Union of Democratic Miners (UDM).

Although Mr Prescott picked his words with care during a television interview, some Labour MPs from constituencies where relations between the UDM and the National Union of Mineworkers are tense, said they were writing to complain to Mr Neil Kinnock. They wanted him to ensure that members of his Shadow Cabinet said nothing to exacerbate feelings.

The Labour Party is approaching a crisis with the impending recognition of the new union by the certification officer. It is expected then to apply for affiliation to the TUC, which will certainly be refused since the TUC's constitution is designed to outlaw breakaway movements.

Unrelenting supporters of Mr

Arthur Scargill are then expected to press for enforcement of the Labour Party's own rules, which might indeed require the expulsion from the party of UDM members.

Since that would at once deprive Labour of control of Nottinghamshire County Council, and gravely weaken its position on several district councils, such pressure will be resisted by every means available to Mr Kinnock and Labour's National Executive Committee.

Mr Prescott's mistake, in the eyes of his audience in Nottinghamshire yesterday, was to say that the party's constitution was clear and that they could not give succour to breakaway trade unions. But from that moment on, although under the strongest pressure from his interviewer on London Weekend Television's *Playground World*, Mr Brian Walden, he gave no further ground.

He insisted that Mr Walden should not assume that the worst would happen, and he recalled that when unions had previously been expelled or suspended by the TUC, individual members had not been

purged from the Labour Party.

Moderate Labour MPs, candidates and officials in Nottinghamshire and South Derbyshire are increasingly alarmed that any moves to exclude members of the new union from the party could alienate thousands of supporters and destroy its electoral chances in key constituencies.

Mr Larry Whitty, the party's general secretary, has written to local constituencies warning them not to take action against members of the UDM, but there are fears that NUM "loyalists" who are active in the Labour Party in the East Midlands, will try to get swift action to expel them.

One prominent Labour politician in Nottinghamshire said: "There will undoubtedly be an attempt by hardline members of the NUM in constituencies here to say that UDM members should be expelled. That will be a recipe for chaos, shambles and defeat. It would be ludicrous for us to say that they cannot be in our party but that we want their votes at the next election."

Most constituencies have so far refused to take any action on the UDM issue, fearful of upsetting one side or the other and hoping that it will be resolved by the party at national level.

Labour holds only three of the eleven Nottinghamshire parliamentary seats - the mining constituencies of Mansfield, Ashfield and Bassetlaw, whose MPs, Mr Don Concannon, Mr Frank Haynes and Mr Joe Ashton respectively, want the party to find a formula to ensure that UDM members can

Continued on page 2, col 5

## Lendl's glittering prize



Ivan Lendl shows off the \$700,000 tennis racket, encrusted on gold with 1,421 diamonds, that he won for beating John McEnroe 1-6, 7-6, 6-2, 6-2 in the final of the European Championships' Championship in Antwerp yesterday. Page 24

## Pretoria press curbs get muted response

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

New emergency restrictions on television, press and radio reporting of unrest in South Africa went into force at the weekend, so far arousing surprisingly muted response. It was the top front-page story in only one leading Sunday newspaper, and many were relegated to inside pages. Only a few had editorial comment on the new measures, which were promulgated in an extraordinary Government *Gazette* on Saturday.

The main effect of the new measures is to ban all film or sound coverage of unrest in any of the 38 magisterial districts under the state of emergency, without permission of the Commissioner of the South African police or an officer designated by him.

Nearly one-third of the population is estimated to live in the emergency districts. Eight of them are in the Cape peninsula and Western Cape, including Cape Town, 13 in the Eastern Cape, including Port Elizabeth, and 17 in the Johannesburg region. The emergency was declared in the Johannesburg region and the Eastern Cape on July 21 and extended to the Western Cape on October 26.

These have been the main centres of the unrest in which, according to the latest police figures, 761 people, almost all black, have died since September last year. The independent South African Institute for Race Relations puts the number of deaths as high as 834, of which it estimates 53 per cent were caused by police or army action.

## Operation for Mandela

JOHANNESBURG: The imprisoned leader of the African National Congress, Mr Nelson Mandela, underwent surgery yesterday in a Cape Town hospital for the removal of an enlarged prostate gland (Michael Hornsby writes). The three doctors involved,

who included a professor of urology from a British university, issued a statement saying Mr Mandela's condition was stable and no complications were expected. Mr Mandela's wife, Winnie, is expected to visit her husband in hospital today.

Continued on back page, col 1

## American Embassy besieged in Kabul

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Soviet and Afghan troops are still understood to be surrounding the United States Embassy in Kabul. They have cut off the electricity and trained searchlights on it in an attempt to force out a young Soviet soldier who has sought refuge there.

Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, revealed the tense confrontation to journalists travelling with him to Moscow at the weekend. He said the US had lodged a protest with the Soviet Union over the siege, and officials said similar protests had been made to the Afghans here and in Kabul.

The soldier, who was on guard duty across the road at Radio Afghanistan, darted through a gate into the US compound on Thursday. He is quoted as saying: "I don't like this war. I want to go home. He has refused to be interviewed by Soviet officials."

His action adds a new complication to the talks that begin in Moscow today between Mr Shultz and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

The last such publicized stalemate, involving seven Siberian Pentecostals who fled into the US Embassy in Moscow, dragged on for five years before they were allowed to leave the country. Under no circumstances are the Russians likely to allow an Army deserter to go free.

The embassy is functioning with emergency generators, and US officials there are still able to come and go. The siege is apparently intended to stop the 19-year-old Russian from slipping out unnoticed.

Mr Shultz is in a particularly difficult position because of the furore here over the State Department's decision to allow the Soviet sailor who jumped ship in New Orleans last week to return home after he said he did not want to seek asylum.

Conservatives and Ukrainians in the US said the sailor, Mr Miroslav Medved, had been dragged and coerced by Russians. President Reagan has asked Mr Edwin Meese, the Attorney General, to open an inquiry.

Continued on back page, col 1

## Cuts in staff add to tax backlog

By Donald Macdiarmid, Labour Editor

The Inland Revenue is being pressed by senior Civil Service union leaders to ease a "horrific" backlog of work by ending staff cuts and adjusting pay to retain and recruit suitably qualified staff.

Figures revealed yesterday by the Inland Revenue Staff Federation (IRSF) show that last month there were 6.5 million items of post on hand in tax offices, increased of more than one million since October last year and 350,000 in the past three months.

The number of items of post more than two months old has increased to a record 549,000 compared with 38,000 in October 1981. Routine items handled by tax officers the largest staff-grade have increased in the past four years from 4,000 to 366,000, a rise of 9,150 per cent.

The IRSF, which is pressing Sir Lawrence Airey, chairman of the board of the Inland Revenue, to take action to reduce the backlog, blames job cuts, pay, and the transfer of operations to computer for the backlog. The union says the computer conversion scheme is the largest in Western Europe.

Mr Tony Christopher, general secretary of the IRSF, wants a freeze on future cuts in staff already reduced by 15,000 since 1979. A further cut of between 4,000 and 5,000 is planned for April 1988.

Mr Christopher said there was "no doubt whatever" that the overall impact would be a loss of Treasury revenue because, apart from other factors, the backlog was preventing work on countering tax avoidance and ensuring compliance. He added: "There is no doubt there is very considerable impact upon taxpayers in delays and inconveniences, but also because in my judgment equity between one taxpayer and another has been substantially out of the window."

The IRSF maintains that current pay levels are not high enough to prevent a drain of staff into the private sector. Mr Christopher said he knew of one tax inspector currently choosing between three private sector jobs.

## Leader of Achille Lauro hijack named in Italy

Genoa (Reuters) - Italian magistrates have named the man they believe directed the hijacking a month ago of the Achille Lauro cruise liner, the news agency Ansa said.

Quoting sources close to the Genoa magistrates' office, it said he had been identified as Masar Kadia, regarded as the right-hand man of Muhammad (Abu) Abbas, the Palestine Liberation Front leader.

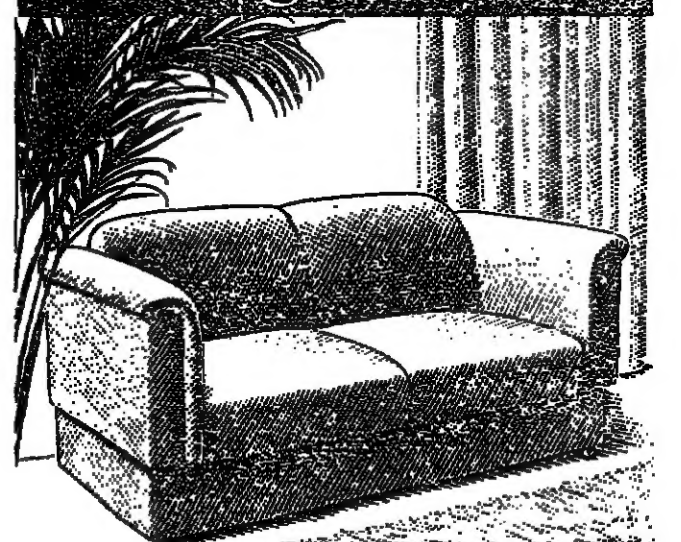
The magistrates believed Mr

Kadia, whose whereabouts are unknown, had directed the four PLF members accused of seizing the Italian ship and killing an American passenger, the sources said.

Posing as a Greek shipowner by name of Petros Floras, Mr Kadia had taken two previous cruises on the Achille Lauro.

On October 3 he boarded the ship again at Genoa, disembarking with other passengers going on a land tour at Alexandria.

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## Competitive car mars veteran run

A 1902 Daimler-Benz yesterday caused an unseemly dispute at the London to Brighton veteran car run by arriving almost an hour ahead of the other entrants.

The car, entered by the Mercedes-Benz museum of Stuttgart and driven by Mr Tom Merrick, beat all the rest into Brighton, but the RAC refused to acknowledge it was the first to arrive officially because it had treated the run like a race.

Mr Peter Cooper, the clerk of the course, said the car must have travelled at more than 20 mph the average speed limit laid down for entrants.

"This car may be disqualified and excluded from next year's run," he said. "Our rules carefully state that this is not a race."

The first official arrival at Brighton was an 1898 Rochet Tricycle driven by Mr Chris Thomas from Carmarthen. Photograph, page 14

## Wintry camp is the price for holiday sun

By Michael Hornsby

Mr Dave Turney, aged 36, an electrician, bedded down in a sleeping bag last night at the head of a queue for a £5 vacation in the south of France next year as Britain's holiday price war escalated.

In freezing weather hundreds of people camped overnight outside travel agents throughout the country hoping for bargain breaks in the sun which will be available for booking from this morning.

The £5 a head offer for a 10-day trip to a caravan and camping centre at Cap d'Agde (limited to the first 500 applicants and available only for the first three weeks in May) is being offered through 200 branches of Lunn Poly by NAT Holidays - which claim to be Britain's largest express coach operator into Europe.

The Leeds-based company is making the offer after the decision by Thomson Holidays to offer 1,000 £25 one-week and £35 two-week holidays (with a further 100,000 standby low price breaks) when rivals Intasun sold 500 £32 holidays in less than an hour.



Mr Turney heading the queue (Photograph: John Voos)

days was in protest at the price war being waged by its giant competitors. Mr Warren Sandral, managing director of NAT, said: "We are protesting on behalf of hundreds of tour operators and travel agents who are furious at the

escalation of the price war.

That threat did not detract from the cut-price pleasure of Mr Turney from Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire, who queued from early yesterday outside Lunn Poly's office in nearby Enfield to spend £20 for the 10 days of barbecues, discotheques and fun by the sunny Mediterranean with his wife Pauline, aged 32, and children Yasmin, aged 14, and Hayley, aged eight.

Clutching a hamburger and a paper cup of champagne supplied by Lunn Poly he said: "I don't care how cold it is tonight, how could I miss my Sunday roast and a warm bed when I have this kind of opportunity? I got washed out by the weather at a holiday camp in Great Yarmouth this year. It's not going to happen again."

The normal price for the family's 10-days with NAT would have been £288.

Holiday chiefs admit that silly prices are being used like loss leaders in supermarkets to draw customers so they can be sold something else



# Sinn Fein fears Ulster deal could mean steps to crush movement

From Richard Ford, Dublin

Fears are growing among the leadership of Provisional Sinn Fein that an Anglo-Irish agreement will be the prelude to an attempt by both governments to crush the movement.

In public and private addresses at the party's annual conference in Dublin yesterday, Mr Gerry Adams signalled their worry that a successful deal by London and Dublin could threaten support for the party through a mixture of reform in the north and repression throughout Ireland.

He devoted a significant portion of his presidential address at the Mansion House to the negotiations which are nearing conclusion and gave a warning to 400 delegates to be prepared for "repression".

Mr Adams returned to the theme in a private session in which a masked member of the Provisional IRA's ruling army council read the traditional message that the struggle would continue and end only when the last British soldier had left the country.

The message Mr Adams gave in private was sobering. He told supporters that he believed plans had been prepared to proscribe Provisional Sinn Fein on both sides of the border in the next two months.

His apprehension is based on the belief that the aim behind the talks is to create a political climate throughout the island for action against the movement through "a mixture of repression and appeasement".

Mr Adams believes that a deal will help to legitimize the British presence in the north making it easier for them to act

against the political and military wings of the movement.

Mr Adams, attacked the Anglo-Irish talks as collusion but also claimed that they were taking place only because of Sinn Fein success.

"They are a compliment to you all. Never before have the Irish and British establishments been forced to spend so much time deliberating on how best to isolate and defeat republicanism," he said.

"The danger was that they would put a diplomatic veneer on British rule and give credibility to constitutional nationalism with the aim of stabilizing British rule in the north."

He was clearly aware of the effect an agreement might have on the electorate in the south, and pleaded with voters to make themselves more aware of the ills caused by partition. "I call upon you not to leave your brothers and sisters in the hands of cynical or career politicians."

Unionists in the north suspect that measures might be taken against the movement in the wake of an agreement with Dublin and an attempt by Britain to assuage "loyalist" anger at giving the Irish Republic a consultative role in the north. They have demanded the banning of Provisional Sinn Fein particularly as they are forced to sit with them on local councils in the north, while British ministers refused to have dealings with the political wing of the Provisional IRA.

Government officials have been looking at the options, including one which will make all councillors in the north sign a declaration rejecting support for violence. This could be introduced by an order in council at Westminster and would affect Provisional Sinn Fein as their councillors must give unambiguous support to the armed struggle.

In Belfast on Saturday 5,000 loyalists and bands from across the province marched to the city's cenotaph for the launch of a new loyalist organization which many unionist MPs believe has strong links with paramilitary groups.

The United Ulster Loyalist Front had expected a crowd of 10,000 at the rally formally setting up Ulster clubs which are to be developed to defeat the Anglo-Irish process.

The parade through the city centre included men wearing paramilitary trappings, including dark glasses and khaki trousers or jackets.

Before the rally, Mr Ken Maginnis, Official Unionist MP for Fermanagh South Tyrone, gave a warning to young people against becoming involved.

Mr Alan Wright, a member of the organization, said: "We are not a paramilitary unit. We are just very seriously concerned that our elected representatives will be ignored by London." He believed representatives of the Ulster Volunteer Force and Ulster Defence Association have been involved in the formation of the clubs.

Two leaders of the Ulster Defence Association, a legal loyalist paramilitary group, were present at the rally.



Jean Borotra (above right), a Wimbledon champion in the 1920s who was known as the Bounding Basque, returned to the All-England Tennis Club yesterday to play Wing Commander Gus Holden (centre), aged 87, shown in action in 1935 (left).

## Britain fights EEC jobs 'red tape'

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Editor

European heads of government are next month expected to consider a proposal for monitoring the cost of complying with EEC directives in what could be a significant step towards further deregulation of British business.

The proposal, which commission officials expect will be on the agenda for next month's Luxembourg summit, would, if approved, reflect a substantial advance for Britain, which has been among the foremost critics of those EEC regulations which it argues hamper job creation.

The Luxembourg summit is already due to hear a full report on deregulation because the issue was raised at the March summit in Milan by Mrs Thatcher, in the wake of her talks on the subject with President Reagan.

The new proposal, which is likely to meet stiff opposition from trade unions, particularly in Britain, could go a long way towards blunting the impact of some of the main planned social affairs directives, including those on worker participation, the rights of part-time workers and parental leave.

Lord Young of Grafton, Secretary of State for Employment, last week called on the EEC to cut out the "red tape" which he claimed threatened to cause a shift of economic activity away from Europe. He pointed out that the British Government had already submitted a list of 40 community regulations which he said made life difficult for businesses in the UK.

Lord Young told a CBI conference that a draft directive

extending parental leave was "particularly unhelpful" and that proposals for extending the statutory rights of part-time workers to bring them into line with those enjoyed by full-time workers would "introduce unnecessary complications for employers and are not in the interests of employees either as they will hinder job creation".

Britain's impatience with EEC rulings on employment has been increased by a European Court judgement that the British Government was wrong to exempt firms of fewer than five employees from the provisions of the Sex Discrimination Act. Reluctant steps to amend the Act are expected to be foreshadowed in the Queen's Speech on Wednesday, although a community-wide move towards more deregulation

could ease the pressure on the Government to make the proposed changes.

Such a move could also boost attempts to press the EEC to raise the threshold above which firms have to register and start charging for value-added tax.

Two Cabinet Ministers yesterday joined forces to press the message that lower pay rises would lead to more jobs.

Mr Leon Brittan, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, told the Yorkshire Area Young Conservatives conference that there were signs that unemployment was falling.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Paymaster General, said on BBC Television that it should not be assumed that wage increases should automatically be ahead of inflation, or that there was a "going rate".

## Concern on law and order aids Tories

By Our Political Editor

More evidence that support for the Conservative Party tends to increase with public concern over law and order is in an opinion poll conducted a week ago by MORI and published in yesterday's *Sunday Times*.

Voters considered it the second most important issue after unemployment.

MORI also found that 45 per cent of those questioned said that Conservative policies on law and order were best.

Labour's policies were preferred by 19 per cent.

Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons, said on BBC radio yesterday that among the Bills of particular significance to be introduced in the next session of Parliament, beginning with the Queen's Speech on Wednesday, was the Public Order Bill.

This has been drafted to strengthen and consolidate the numerous laws relating to riot and disorder.

## WRP is to expel Redgraves

By Our Education Correspondent

A question mark is hanging over the future direction of Keele University, in Staffordshire. As a small, residential and relatively expensive-to-run university, it is facing the choice between amalgamation with the local polytechnic or continuation as a cosy liberal arts college.

Students and some academics are worried that the special identity of Keele, with its unique joint honours degrees and foundation courses, will be lost. In the current atmosphere of cuts, the spectre of closure has been raised.

This month a working party established by Professor Brian Fender, the university's new vice-chancellor, is to report on a proposal to merge Keele with the neighbouring Polytechnic of North Staffordshire.

It is expected to recommend the merger in the interests of creating a larger and ultimately stronger, higher education institution which would span the ability range and offer degree and sub-degree courses.

A new institution would admit 8,000 students, use the current three sites of the polytechnic and the university, and maintain the combined honours and foundation year courses which aim to produce literate scientists and numerate arts graduates. There were no plans for cuts or redundancies.

Mr Tony Bell, president of the university students' union, said the merger would mean closure and surrender to government cost-cutting in higher education.

If and when a decision is taken in principle, there will be a mass of detail to sort out, and approval will have to be sought from official bodies, including the Department of Education and Science, the University Grants Committee and the National Advisory Body.

Mr Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, is considering a proposal for the British Academy that be fund post-doctoral research fellowships for 75 of the nation's best scholars in humanities.

## University merger prospect

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## Bill aims at teacher reform

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The Government is to introduce legislation requiring local education authorities to appraise the performance of teachers regularly.

This is expected to be one of the proposals to be announced in the Queen's Speech to Parliament on Wednesday, and it will be included in a new education Bill to be considered by MPs in the new session.

Government proposals to change the balance of power on school governing bodies will also be enacted, giving parent governors an equal say with

local education authority representatives. A new category of community governors will be co-opted on to governing bodies.

Governors will be given greater say in the running of schools, with their powers on curriculum, appointments and discipline to be strengthened and clarified. But local education authorities will keep ultimate control on the suspension of pupils and dismissal of staff.

The Government is giving itself the power to require

appraisal of teachers' performance because it believes it is an important means of improving teaching standards, and because of the lack of progress in negotiating an agreement with teacher unions.

About 10,000 pupils in four towns in Scotland, Elgin, Stirling, Kilsyth and Lenzie, will be affected by teachers' strikes this week in what the Educational Institute of Scotland called a "major escalation" of its campaign for an independent pay review.

## Labour MPs fear expulsions

Continued from page 1

play an active future role in the party.

They believe Labour would court electoral disaster if it ignored the 3-1 vote for the UDM by Nottinghamshire's 27,000 miners, not just in vital mining constituencies such as Sherwood, but also in the Tory-held Nottingham City parliamentary seat and on numerous Labour-controlled local councils.

Nottinghamshire miners are a powerful influence on the party's constituency general management committees (GMCs). Delegates are nominated each year and all the present miner-delegates were nominated by the UDM.

The UDM before the new union was formed, but now their allegiances are split. Nominations are due again early next year and what is left in the UDM in the county and the new UDM are expected to put forward their own rival nominees.

Mr Concanon, who was sponsored by the UDM but is now completely at odds with the national union, said: "If the UDM is not recognized, I will become an ex-MP. The TUC has got to make sure there are ways and means of recognizing the new union and allowing its members in the party."

There are two pits and an estimated 5,000 miners in the Mansfield constituency where Mr Concanon is guarding a slender 2,200 majority. About one-third of the 100 members of the constituency GMC are

miners, and while UDM supporters are thought to be in the majority, NUM delegates are active and vocal.

Two of the five pits in the Basselaw constituency to the north are in the militant pro-UDM South Yorkshire coalfield, which makes Mr Ashton's difficulties greater than most.

About 20 miners are on the GMC, most of them active NUM members. Miss Blodwen Coleman, the constituency secretary, said: "Until I get a directive from the Labour Party's national executive, the constituency will be taking no action."

Labour's potential difficulties

over the UDM are demonstrated amply in the Sherwood constituency, where there are 10 pits and about 12,000 miners who - with their families - make up about 40 per cent of the electorate. It is the biggest mining constituency in the country, and was captured by the Conservatives at the last election with a majority of only 658.

It was a seat that Labour confidently expected to recapture at the next election, until the UDM issue came to the fore. About half of the 100 delegates on the GMC are miners, and they are split down the middle between support for the UDM and NUM.

Pressure on the leaders of the 2,000-strong Leicestershire area of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) to back the Nottinghamshire-led breakaway union increased sharply yesterday after the branch at Ellistown colliery called for an area-wide ballot on the issue (our Labour Editor writes).

At a meeting on Saturday attended by more than 100 of the 580 miners at the pit, one of the four in Leicestershire, the men rejected outright an appeal from Mr Jack Jones, the Leicestershire area secretary, not to approve the motion and to remain loyal to the NUM.

Mr Terry Hughes, a branch official at Ellistown and the area president, last night estimated that the motion in favour of an area ballot on joining the new Union of

Democratic Mineworkers was carried by as much as 90-15. A motion inviting Mr Arthur Scargill, the NUM president, to address Ellistown miners was defeated, by a much narrower majority.

Mr Hughes said last night that he now hoped and expected there would be a ballot on joining the UDM. Miners at Bagworth colliery met next week and are thought likely to support the call made by Ellistown miners.

The results of a ballot on joining the breakaway union at the big Daw Mill pit in Warwickshire are expected to be known tomorrow. Meanwhile the TUC's inner cabinet meets the full NUM executive on Wednesday to explore the possibility of averting the deepening split in the miners' ranks.

## Move to end Militant hold on Liverpool

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The first sign of an organized attempt by the legitimate Labour left to break the Militant faction's control of Liverpool City Council and the district Labour party appeared yesterday at Liverpool Labour Left, a new grouping formed with the knowledge and approval of Mr Neil Kinnock.

About 250 people, including Mr John Blunkett, the non-Militant leader of the council, gathered at Liverpool's unemployment centre. They heard one of the prime movers, Mr David Leach, a city councillor, say that the group was intended to be "a forum which people can use without being politically or in any other way intimidated".

The group applied to Labour's national executive committee last week for registration as an approved group, and its members have had informal assurances that this will be afforded.

Militant, whose members use tight discipline to exercise control over the council and the district party without having a numerical majority, has angered the Labour leadership by its apparent determination to bankrupt the city.

Mr David Blunkett, leader of Sheffield City Council, who has been prominent in moves aimed at solving Liverpool's financial crisis, said at yesterday's meeting that not all the proposals in the package which the Militant leadership is expected to reject, were acceptable. But it "offered the basis of an opportunity to put things on a slightly more even keel".

Militant members have resisted increasing the rate, and have called instead for increased central government funding.

Mr Blunkett asked at the meeting if anyone seriously believed that the Government would step in and bail out Liverpool, given the evidence of opinion polls that the Tories benefited from law-and-order issues.

Mr Tony Byrne, a Militant councillor, who intervened to speak from the floor, said that if help was conditional on the council making cuts, they would do without the help.

## High-speed missile work by Shorts

A new British missile, capable of several times the speed of sound, and known as "Starstreak", is being developed by Short Brothers of Belfast (our Defence Correspondent writes).

Announcing the project over the weekend, Shorts described it as a high velocity missile to provide close air defence requirements on the battlefield for the twenty-first century.

It is designed to be fired from lightweight multiple launchers or from the shoulder. It is claimed to be capable of use from warships or aircraft.

Shorts were earlier this year awarded a £3 million project definition study for a high velocity missile, on which they had been working for some years. It is expected that a contract for the missile's full development will be awarded early next year.

## Subsidies plea for wildlife

EEC subsidies to British farmers should be reduced and measures adopted to protect the landscape and wildlife, three conservation groups said in a study yesterday.

The World Wildlife Fund, the Council for the Protection of Rural England and the Council for National Parks said subsidies to farmers should be cut from £1.2 billion to £800 million over five years, leaving £380 million in savings, and £140 million to encourage conservation.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$29, Belgium 9.75, Canada 12.50, France 12.50, Germany 12.50, Greece 12.50, Hong Kong 12.50, India 12.50, Italy 12.50, Japan 12.50, Korea 12.50, Malaysia 12.50, New Zealand 12.50, Norway 12.50, Portugal 12.50, Singapore 12.50, South Africa 12.50, Spain 12.50, Sweden 12.50, Switzerland 12.50, Taiwan 12.50, Thailand 12.50, Turkey 12.50, USA 12.50, West Germany 12.50, Yugoslavia 12.50.

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## Laird warns TUC over government ballot cash

By Our Labour Editor

The gravity of the threatened split facing the TUC was underlined yesterday when Mr Gavin Laird, the engineering workers' leader, said that his union would "inevitably" apply to take more money from the Government for ballots if his members voted in favour of doing so next month.

Mr Laird's tough restatement of the AUEW's intentions will put fresh pressure on the TUC to reconsider its three-year-old boycott of government cash for ballots if it wants to avoid the loss of not only the engineering union, but also the electricians and a number of other unions.

Mr Laird said yesterday on the independent television *Weekend World* programme that the AUEW did not want to be outside the TUC but it would work with other unions,

## Pilgrimage to honour 'Forgotten Army'

By Alan Hamilton

As a final act of official commemoration for the fortieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War, 230 widows and veterans of the "Forgotten Army" will leave England tomorrow for a pilgrimage to the battlefields and graves of the Far East campaign.

The pilgrims are travelling as guests of the Government, and will be accompanied for part of their tour by the Duke of Kent and Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence.

After complaints from veterans' organizations last year that the anniversary celebrations appeared to be concentrating almost solely on the war in Europe, and that the 14th Army again was in danger of being forgotten, the Government agreed to fund one visit to

the war graves of the Malay peninsula.

For many of the pilgrims, whose names were drawn at random from the 1,500 applications, they will be returning to their particular theatre of

the war for the first time. Many were prisoners of war of the Japanese, and they will see again the sites of their incarceration and forced labour, including the notorious Changi Jail in Singapore, the Burma railway, and the modern bridge of the river Kwai.

Highlights will include remembrance Sunday services at Hongkwan war cemetery in Burma, one of the largest in South-east Asia.

The idea of government-sponsored visits to war graves arose after the Falklands campaign, when widows argued that because of distance and cost, they would be unlikely to manage a visit from their own pockets.

Now, under a scheme funded by the Ministry of Defence, and operated by the Royal British Legion, war widows will be able to make a certain number of future pilgrimages as part of an eighth of the total cost, the rest being met by the Government.

Mr Sara Jones, widow of Lieutenant-Colonel H. Jones, who was killed in the Falklands today as part of a three-member delegation from the Falklands Families Association.

The other two are the chairman, Mr Des McKeogh, whose son was among the Welsh Guards killed on the Sir Galahad at Bluff Cove and Mrs Christine Robinson-Moyle, whose naval officer husband died on board the Coventry.

They will be there to finalize details for a private pilgrimage for families to the graves of men killed in action.



# Drugs from body chemicals promise hope for heart disease treatment

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Important advances which could help in the prevention and treatment of serious heart conditions have been made by scientists at a London hospital.

Their work could lead to a new range of drugs, developed from the body's natural chemicals, to help millions of heart patients.

The advances are in research into the little-known effects of neuropeptides on the cardiovascular system.

Scientists at Hammersmith Hospital have found that two peptides, known as NPY and CGRP, have a powerful influence on blood flow to the heart.

The chemicals, part of the body's complex signalling system, have been discovered in abundance in vessels surrounding the heart. They are believed to be capable of triggering constriction or dilation of the coronary arteries.

They could also be responsible for coronary spasm, a common cause of heart attacks.

Drugs produced from the peptides could control serious conditions such as high blood

pressure - another big risk factor in heart disease - coronary spasm, and other diseases of the blood vessels.

The peptides have been tested on human subjects at Hammersmith, with dramatic effects on blood pressure. Their possible therapeutic use is now being evaluated.

A large team of scientists and physicians at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School at the hospital is responsible for the new understanding of the role of peptides in the heart.

Professor Stephen Bloom, the leading researcher, said: "The developments from this field of research are likely to give physicians the means of controlling and preventing much current heart disease and diseases of the circulation".

Professor Bloom, professor of endocrinology at the hospital's department of medicine, added: "I have no doubt that within a decade a range of drugs will be produced from these peptides and that they will be a big step towards curing conditions which afflict millions of people around the world".

The research is being substantially funded by the British Heart Foundation. Professor Jack Shillingford, the foundation's consultant medical director, said: "I think this is one of the most important advances in the whole of medicine in the last 10 years."

"It will open up understanding of many conditions other than heart disease. We will continue to fund it because we believe that from such basic research we shall eventually learn how to control and cure heart disease."

The importance of peptides in treating a wide range of conditions has been increasingly recognized in the past few years. One of the leading new drugs for hypertension, captopril, acts by inhibiting the formation of the peptide angiotensin.

The latest research has prompted an international race among leading pharmaceutical companies to produce new drugs from the heart peptides. The profits to be made from such products could be enormous.

## Nearly 200 entries for community award

By Charles Kneve

Nearly 200 entries have been received for the Times/RIBA Community Enterprise Scheme for 1985-86. They will be considered at the first meeting of the assessors at the Royal Institute of British Architects in London today.

Miss Lynne Hutton, co-ordinator of the scheme, which is to encourage community initiatives in the design and management of local projects, said that many were of a very high standard which would make the task of choosing a short-list difficult.

About a third of the entries are for community centres, slightly less for housing projects, including self-build schemes, and many workshops, urban farms, sports and leisure facilities and general environmental improvements, such as adventure playgrounds. Several of the entries make special provision for the disabled and handicapped.

The award scheme is unique in that projects will be monitored during the process of commissioning and building and not judged solely as a final product. The award presentation ceremony will take place next June. The assessors include representatives from community groups, finance and industry, the housing charity, Shelter, as well as architects.

The Times will give regular coverage of the short-listed



entries during the next few months and a Special Report is planned to coincide with the announcement of the awards.

## 75,000 buildings listed in re-survey

More than 75,000 buildings have been listed since 1982 during the first phase of an accelerated re-survey prompted by the demolition of the Firestone factory in Brentford, West London, in 1980. The buildings include houses, churches, theatres, hotels, municipal and industrial buildings, pillar boxes and milestones.

Mr Brian Anthony, deputy chief inspector of English Heritage, described the survey as "the most comprehensive and intensive recording of buildings ever carried out, comparable with the Domesday Book nine centuries ago".

## Transplants may breach NHS rules

A leading private hospital is to be asked to explain its policy on liver transplants after allegations that organs supplied through the National Health Service have been used for patients living outside Britain (Thomson Prentice writes).

The Cromwell Hospital in Kensington, south-west London, may have infringed rules restricting operations to patients from European countries which have reciprocal arrangements with Britain, a spokesman for the Department of Health said yesterday.

He was commenting on a report in the Mail on Sunday that two patients from overseas had received liver transplants in operations costing more than £35,000 each.

The department is likely to ask the hospital soon for an explanation. The hospital would not comment on the allegations yesterday.

## Two drowned on fishing trip

Two men who failed to return from a fishing trip in the North Sea on Friday are presumed drowned.

An air and sea search, which covered almost 3,000 square miles, failed to find Mr Jim Patterson, aged 44, a licensee of The Galleon, Spital, Berwick-upon-Tweed and his father-in-law, Mr Harry Gillie, aged 66, of Parkside, Tweedmouth, Berwick.

## Crew of 5 saved as ship sinks

A crew of five were rescued by another British coaster after the 700-ton Gwyn, built earlier this year and carrying steel, sank in the North Sea near the Dutch-German border yesterday.

Those rescued were Martin Groves, aged 39, Colin Parfitt, aged 33, John Mennard, aged 27, Stephen Bingham, aged 25, and Alan Southwood, aged 20, all believed to be from south east England.

## Attack charges

Four men, aged between 18 and 20, will appear before Nottingham magistrates today charged in connection with the attack a week ago on a British Transport policeman, PC Neil Harvey, aged 28, who is seriously ill in hospital, after an operation to remove a blood clot from the brain.

## Jury to consider last verdict in rape case

The jury in a rape case in which seven youths were charged, return to court today to consider its verdict on a youth, aged 14, the last decision it has to make.

The Central Criminal Court jury on Saturday convicted four black youths of the multiple rape of two white girls, aged 16. Three of them, all teenagers, were found guilty of two charges of rape. A fourth was cleared of one charge, but convicted of another. A fifth youth was acquitted.

On Friday, the jury of eight men and for women found another member of the Brixton gang, Michael "General Smiley" Thompson, aged 17 of Chute House, Stockwell Park estate, Brixton, south-west London, guilty of two charges of rape, one against each girl. The prosecution alleged that the youths attacked the girls

only 100 yards from Brixton police station as they walked home.

They were frog-marched to garages below a block of flats, stripped, and raped repeatedly: one 30 times and the other 15 times during a two-hour ordeal.

Clive Ballantine, nicknamed "Private Gripper", aged 17, unemployed, of Cromhurst House, and Gary McDonald, aged 18, unemployed, of Tyler House, all on the Stockwell Park estate, were each found guilty of two charges of rape.

Winston Edwards, aged 15, a schoolboy, of Cromhurst House, was found guilty of one rape charge and acquitted on another.

Mr John Nutting, for the prosecution, accused all the youths of telling "lie after lie". The youths, who been remanded for reports, will be sentenced later this month.

## Room for praise in hotel guides

By Robin Young

The catering scene in Britain has shown an improvement in the past 12 to 18 months that is difficult to believe, Mr Egon Ronay says in his *Lucas Guide to Hotels, Restaurants and Inns* published today.

Mr Hilary Rubinstein, editor of the rival *The Good Hotel Guide 1986*, which also appears today, agrees that "good hotels offering choice and out-of-the-ordinary experiences can be found at every price level".

But both find plenty to grumble about. Mr Ronay says that service, although more friendly is still far from skilled, room radios rarely work, breakfast keeps "relentlessly deteriorating", and some charges are "indignant".

Mr Rubinstein says hotels have taken "gross advantage" of demand with disproportionate price rises, and by imposing statutory service charges.

The improvements which cheer Mr Ronay, include improved decor, better maintenance, more meticulous housekeeping and general cleanliness.

While Mr Ronay registers delight that a glass of sherry might be offered at the reception desk, or iced champagne in the bedroom of a country house hotel, Mr

Rubinstein is suspicious of the growing range of "exotic or extravagant freebies". Mr Ronay's hotel of the year, the Inn on the Park in London, is not in Mr Rubinstein's book at all.

Mr Rubinstein's César awards for excellence include Homewood Park at Hinton Charterhouse, Avon, for classic country house hotel standards; Lodore Swiss Hotel, Keswick, Cumbria, as best family hotel; The Old Vicarage, Rye, East Sussex, as "most civilized bed-and-breakfast"; The Cellidh Place, Ullapool, Highland, "for utterly acceptable mild eccentricity"; and Tregony House, Tregony, Cornwall, as "best value".

Mr Ronay's laurels include two restaurants awarded three stars for the first time: Le Manoir aux Quat Saisons, Great Milton, Oxfordshire, which is also named restaurant of the year, and Le Gavroche, London.

Three London hotel restaurants are added to the ranks of two-star restaurants: Le Soufflé at the Inter-Continental, the Connaught restaurant, and the Terrace at the Dorchester. The other new two-star restaurant is Chez Nico at Shinfield, Berkshire. The Cellar of the Year award goes to

Hambleton Hall, at Oakham, Leicestershire.

In the first guide to Britain's wine bars, also published today, Miss Kathryn McWhirter, the editor, says that two-thirds of establishments are serving the cheapest wines.

Many managers and owners know little about wine, and most wine bars are simply "pubs, hamburger joints or cocktail bars in disguise", she says.

In a special survey of the quality and range of fresh food sold in supermarkets, the Egon Ronay guide calls for a statutory date-stamping system to indicate the freshness of food, in addition to shelf-life.

Inspectors examined fresh food at 27 stores in five cities, and sampled 300 food items. Marks & Spencer was judged outstanding for the "supreme quality" of its fresh produce, and in the assessment finished ahead of Sainsbury and Waitrose, the nearest competitors.

Egon Ronay's *Lucas Guide 1986 to Hotels, Restaurants and Inns in Great Britain and Ireland* (distributed by the Automobile Association; £8.60). *The Good Hotel Guide 1986* (Consumers' Association and Hodder & Stoughton, £9.95). *The Good Wine Bar Guide 1986* (Consumers' Association and Hodder & Stoughton, £4.95).



The Rev Donald Reeves, rector of St James's Piccadilly, and the Rev Jesse Jackson and the US civil rights campaigner, after a church service yesterday. An injured policeman is helped at the demonstration outside the South African Embassy on Saturday (Photographs: Peter Trievnor and Herbie Knott)



## CND rally numbers disputed

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament has been accused of consistently exaggerating the number of people who attend its demonstrations. It is claimed that photographic analysis shows the number who attended the rally in London on Saturday, October 26, was less than half the 100,000 claimed.

Dr Julian Lewis, director of Policy Research Associates, which described itself as "a

London-based political consultancy", said analysis of aerial photographs of the rally in Hyde Park had shown there were only about 38,000 people.

The photograph, from a helicopter, and the analysis, had been organized by PRA and carried out by Aerofilms, a division of Hunting Services, which is one of the leading British firms in aerial survey. Dr Lewis said the photo-

graphic analysis was reckoned to be accurate to within 6 per cent, or roughly 2,000, on either side.

The police estimate of the numbers at the rally was 70,000 to 80,000.

Dr Lewis said that in October, 1983, when the number attending a CND rally was estimated between 200,000 and 400,000, a similar aerial survey had shown the number

was just under 100,000.

CND could not be contacted yesterday.

A City of London police officer was in hospital with a fractured skull yesterday after violence at Saturday's mass anti-apartheid rally outside the South African Embassy in Trafalgar Square, London.

Police said there were 144 arrests at the rally.

Michael Hornsby, page 10

## Advert for black staff 'shows bias' Tory claims

Labour members of Sheffield City Council have been accused of discriminating against social workers who are white.

The council has advertised for two black social workers. Mrs Christine Smith, a Conservative member of the council is demanding that the word black is deleted to give any social worker an opportunity to apply.

"I don't care if social workers are black, pink, blue or white as long as they can do the job. But this is an obvious case of discrimination," she said yesterday.

The council is checking that the advertisement does not infringe the Race Relations Act, 1976. Mr John Harbour, the equal opportunities officer, said: "We believe that being black is a genuine qualification for this job because there is a need to recruit more black families for fostering and adoptions".

Mrs Smith said that she had checked with the Commission for Racial Equality and the only way an employer could advertise in that way was if it was looking for special skills.

"This is not the case with these jobs because the posts involve working with black, white and mixed race foster parents. The advertisement doesn't ask for special skills and they could be filled with social workers from any race," she said.

## Visit to doctor means 12,000-mile trip

Mr Lam Sang Yip, a Chinese take-away proprietor, has to close his business each time he sets out to see his doctor, because it takes him two days to get there.

He is one of hundreds of Chinese who pack a suitcase and passport when they visit their doctor 6,000 miles away in Hong Kong.

When Mr Lam aged 48, who suffers from rheumatism, has to see his doctor about pains in his

leg, he shuts down his take-away restaurant in Brecon, Powys, and flies to Hong Kong.

The 10,000-strong Chinese community in South Wales is now demanding that the health authority appoints a Chinese speaking doctor to cut their medical costs.

Mr Shu Kam Chung, aged 32, a Chinese community development officer in Cardiff, said: "This is common throughout Britain. When I first came here

I went to hospital with chest pains but I did not know what they were telling me so I discharged myself and flew to Hong Kong to see a doctor there."

Mr Brian Maumder, deputy administrator of the family practitioners' committee, said: "We are canvassing all our GPs to find out the extent of the problem and if necessary we will try to attract a Chinese speaking doctor here."

## Woman driver abducted

A woman car driver was abducted and raped by a man armed with a knife after he forced her off the M4 motorway in Wiltshire on Saturday night.

A spokesman for the Wiltshire police said the man had forced the woman on to the hard shoulder between Chippenham and Swindon, then drove her to London where she was raped and held captive for almost nine hours.

The spokesman said the

woman, aged 40, of north London, was badly beaten before being dumped at Victoria station. The police are investigating a link with an attack at Reading nine days ago when a woman aged 27 was raped and held captive for five hours before being dumped.

The latest victim described her abductor as aged about 27, of heavy build, and wearing a light coloured jumper, blue jeans and a bomber jacket.

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## New-look Post Office

## Electronics hold key to diversification and improved delivery of mail

Today the price of the second-class stamp drops one penny to 12p and will stay at that price until the end of March next year. The gamble will cost the Post Office £20 million. In the second of two articles BILL JOHNSTONE, Technology Correspondent, describes how the Post Office is embracing electronics to bring itself into the modern age.

By the end of the decade the big post offices could be offering customers a range of new services, while behind the scenes a highly mechanized operation will increase the reliability of mail delivery. Both elements are crucial to the new-look Post Office.

By the 1990s high street post offices could be doubling as banks, travel agents, concert booking agents and even building societies and estate agents, taking on the diversity of a small department store.

Meanwhile, 80 sorting offices have been mechanized, or will be by the end of the year, and 20 of these centres will contain high-speed electronic controlled reading machines which translate typed addresses into a code to assist sorting. These machines can process 35,000 letters an hour.

Both at the counter and behind the scenes automation is playing an increasingly important role.

The mainstay of the revolution is the £100 million programme for computerizing counter service. The Post Office wants to place electronic terminals in 6,000 locations, and is awaiting government approval of the plan which could bring 250 offices in the Thames Valley area on-line by 1987.

The electronic change is going to require diplomacy. Other high street traders are likely to see the Post Office as state-sponsored competition. Almost every high street business could feel the effect of the revolution as there are more than 1,500 main post offices and 20,000 sub-offices.

Sir Ronald Dearing, chairman of the Post Office, believes

that any service which could be performed by a clerk with the aid of a computer terminal could be offered by the corporation. A minor change to existing legislation will be required.

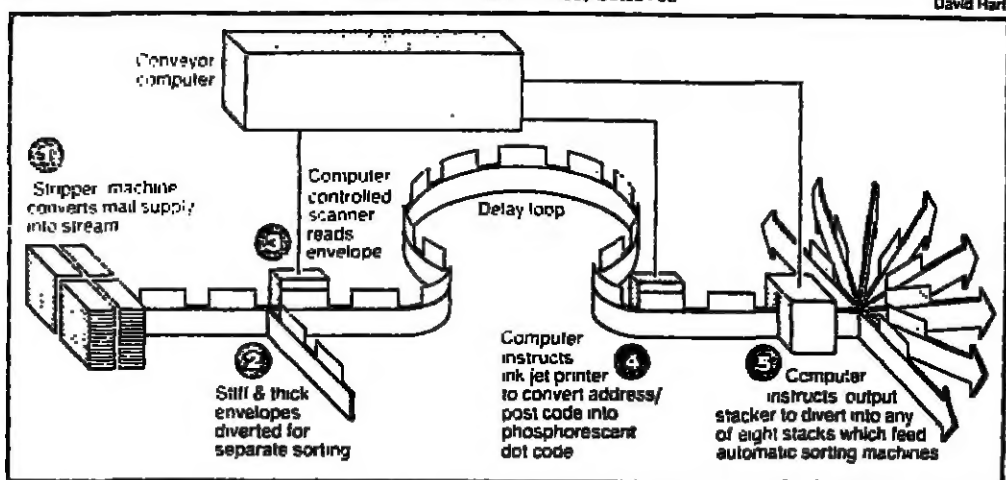
But improving existing mail and counter services is equally important, the Post Office says. On the counters, the electronic transition will ensure that its services are provided with greater efficiency. About 150 types of transaction are performed on behalf of public sector clients, such as the Department of Health and Social Security, Home Office and the Department of National Savings. In an average week the Post Office caters to 28 million counter customers.

A further £100 million has been allocated to the mechanization of 42 million letters a day as illustrated in the accompanying graph.

"The customer is voting with his letter box", Sir Ronald says. The profile of the new Post Office is meant that the customer continues to do just that.

Concluded

David Hart



## 'Disorderly conduct' offence attacked by rights group

The Government's proposal for a new offence of disorderly conduct is strongly criticized today as "dangerously wide" and likely to heighten tension between young people and the police.

The National Council for

Civil Liberties says of the proposal in a pull-out order Bill expected this session: "It will encompass trivial behaviour which should not be penalized by the criminal law."

16, Princes (NCCCL, 21 Tabard Street, London SE1, E3 9J).

## NHS cuts close nursing journal

Nursing Mirror, Britain's second biggest independent nursing weekly, with a circulation of more than 50,000, has had to close because of government cuts in money spent on health service staff recruiting.

The publication has been bought by its rival, the Nursing Times.

## Restorers reveal 300-year cover-up

By Geraldine Norman  
Sale Room Correspondent

An allegorical portrait of England's first great royal art collector - Henry, Prince of Wales, elder brother of Charles I - is one of the most extraordinary rediscoveries sparked by the "Treasures of Britain" exhibition which opened in Washington yesterday.

The landscape background to a well-known equestrian portrait of the prince, which normally hangs at Parham, West Sussex, has been cleaned to reveal that Henry is "leading Time by the forelock" past the wall of a formal Tudor garden, glimpsed through a distant arch. A plaque with the prince's feathers is set into the wall.

The horse he rides has changed from a slim-line Van Dyckian mount with curling mane to a stocky Tudor charger. The prince in armour, with Time carrying his plumed helmet, emerges as an allegory of command.

The painting used to be attributed to Isaac Oliver, the miniaturist, but it was reassessed for the sake of the exhibition by Sir Roy Strong and attributed to the Italian Constantino dei Serri, who is known to have worked for Henry.

The cleaning, only completed a fortnight ago, just in time



The restored portrait showing Henry, Prince of Wales, leading Time by the forelock.

has left the cognoscenti in no doubt that the painting is by the leading British portraitist of the day, Robert Peake.

The portrait of Henry was selected for exhibition in Washington because of the significance of the prince's role in the history of British art collecting.

Then they found a couple of patches where an earlier restorer had cleaned through the landscape to the original picture: not having the courage to proceed, he had painted the landscape back in, but this

the cleaning, evidence of the repaint was discovered.

The plaque with the prince's feathers first alerted them. Shown hanging in a tree, it had clearly been painted before the surrounding foliage and sky because the paints overlapped it.

By the time of the Restoration, when royal portraits could be brought out again, it must have looked rather seedy, from such a treatment, and anyway old-fashioned.

The owner, Mrs Patrick Tritton, then decided to take the exciting gamble and have the overpaint removed. The institute got down to work, day and night for nine months.

The picture beneath has emerged in excellent condition. It seems probable that during the Civil War the royal portrait had to be hidden: it was probably removed from its stretcher and rolled up.

By the time of the Restoration, when royal portraits could be brought out again, it must have looked rather seedy, from such a treatment, and anyway old-fashioned.

A painter of the late seventeenth-century seems to have gone to work to turn the portrait, as far as was possible, into the fashionable style of Van Dyck. Thus the horse was changed and a wooded landscape background added. The original character of the portrait was lost for nearly 300 years.

## Mob victims demand compensation

## Sikhs confront their nightmares

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

An exhibition of children's paintings in Delhi has a number of works illustrating dramatic action. Brilliant orange and red flames consume one third of the drawings. Stick-like men rush hither and thither.

The men with turbans are smiling. The men without turbans are shouting "Maro, Maro" ("Kill, Kill").

The paintings are by Sikh children whose fathers, brothers or uncles died in the awful spasm of anti-Sikh violence which rocked Delhi 12 months ago after the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi.

The paintings are partly a way of helping children externalize their nightmares. Partly they are being used by Sikh activists to propagate their campaign to assuage the pain and fear of their community.

At the weekend there were

demonstrations and public meetings to draw attention to Sikh feelings. Many poor Sikhs are still in refugee camps 12 months after fleeing from murderous mobs. They have been brought out by the Sikh leadership in Delhi to march to the Prime Minister's home to press for rehabilitation.

Lieutenant-General Jagjit Singh Aurora led a public meeting which included speakers from universities and civil liberties organizations, and which urged the Government to prosecute those responsible for the riots and to compensate those who suffered in them.

Many Sikhs still hold feelings of deep paranoia about the events of last November. One highly educated upper-class professional told me with a good deal of earnestness that Mrs Gandhi's Government had

drawn up plans for a general assault on the Sikhs, to try to wipe them out. The reason they felt secure in doing so was that the Army was in Punjab in force to hold down any reaction from the Sikhs there while Sikhs in six big centres elsewhere were massacred.

The reason there was no massacre in Maharashtra, he insisted, was that two Sikh regiments were posted there.

The meeting of General Aurora's Sikh forum also criticized the large sums of money spent on commemorating Mrs Gandhi's death last week. But Sikh extremists celebrated Martyrdom Day in their own way by honouring the Prime Minister's assassins.

Then the militants of the All-India Sikh Students Federation attacked the rebuilt Akal Takht.

## Greek right shrugs off dictatorship warning

From Mario Modiano, Athens

A warning by Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Prime Minister, that there is danger of a dictatorship in Greece has been dismissed by the opposition as an alarmist attempt to discourage popular reactions against his Government's tough austerity measures.

Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, leader of the conservative New Democracy, the main opposition party, told crowds in northern Greece on Saturday: "The only threat to democracy comes from Mr Papandreu himself. We must get rid of him soonest."

The pro-Soviet Communist Party called the Prime Minister's attempt to link a terrorist explosion in an Athens bus last week with the continuing wave of labour strikes in protest against austerity a "dangerous method for disorientation and

disinformation". The Socialist leader's ominous remarks were made at a Cabinet meeting on Friday. He said the atmosphere in Greece was reminiscent of the days just before the 1967 military coup, but he did not specify who might try to seize power.

Mr Papandreu hastened to exonerate the Greek armed forces which, he said, "are loyal to democracy and the constitution". Although a few "seeds" survived from the days of the dictatorship, they were in no position to topple the elected Government, he said.

But Mr Papandreu said he was determined to crush any attempt by reactionary forces, inside or outside Greece. "It is our duty", he said, "to impose legality, public order and normality with determination and a strong hand."

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## Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

Are the latest American proposals on arms control more than a public relations exercise? That is the question I have been asking during conversations in Washington over the past few days.

Simply as a public relations exercise, they should not be scored by European opinion. On the contrary, they are welcome evidence that the United States is listening to its allies. Consultation with other NATO governments has been exceptionally close in the run-up to the Reagan-Gorbachev summit. The allies made it plain that European opinion required another American initiative before the President met Mr Gorbachev, and Mr Reagan has responded.

But he has, I think, done more than that. He has sent a signal of his willingness to negotiate seriously. There is a strong element of repackaging earlier ideas in these proposals. Yet there is a bit more to them than that. Otherwise the squeals of protest would not already be heard from particular defence interests in Washington.

I am not suggesting that the United States has now provided the basis for a potential agreement. The gap between the two sides is still far too wide for that. But this initiative is part of a process that may lead to serious negotiation.

## No concessions on SDI

The American proposals do not, however, include any concessions over the Strategic Defence Initiative, even though the Soviet Union has made it clear that these would be a condition for its willingness to cut offensive weapons. The thinking within the Reagan Administration is that they would be ready for substantive negotiations on SDI only when they had got far down the road in discussions on offensive nuclear weapons.

As a broad proposition, that seems reasonable to me. When the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty was signed in 1972, it was hoped that restrictions on defensive systems would be matched by limitations on offensive weapons. But the Soviet Union managed to get round the provisions of the Salt 1 treaty so as to develop its nuclear armory enormously.

It is prudent now, therefore, to test the seriousness of Soviet intentions on offensive weapons before throwing the principal Western card on to the negotiating table.

But this American approach does raise a number of questions. If it is reasonable to postpone serious negotiations on SDI now, can one really be sure that it will be the settled strategy of the Reagan Administration to talk seriously later if there is sufficient progress in other directions?

The Administration has become progressively more flexible on arms control, but it has hardly given evidence of a settled strategy. The confusion over whether the United States believes in the broad or the narrow interpretation of the ABM Treaty has illustrated how policy is made by the uncertain process of presidential arbitration between conflicting factions.

Even if this is the settled Reagan strategy, will he be able to make this evident both to the Soviet Union and to his allies? Otherwise, the Russians may not negotiate seriously, and European opinion will be liable to put the blame on the United States.

I would suspect that if progress was being made in the other negotiations, the Americans would be impelled to talk seriously about SDI rather earlier than they now intend. But at that point, is there a potential deal that could be done?

There is no sign either that the Russians could be reconciled to the deployment of SDI or that the United States would give up the right to deploy for ever under all circumstances. The best hope would be a commitment not to deploy without an extended warning period.

That could be achieved by amending the ABM Treaty. But it is pointed out that this would require a two-thirds majority in the Senate - as, indeed, would any new formal arms control treaty.

So thoughts are turning to the possibility of banning some activity that would have to be undertaken well before deployment became technically feasible.

This is not a negative strategy. But it could easily be derailed, and still more easily be made to appear negative. President Reagan may be about to face his most subtle test as a communicator.

## Pact's author warns West

## Treaty may stop Star Wars allies transferring data

From Michael Biayon, Washington

Unless the US deliberately violated the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, Britain, West Germany and other US allies would be forbidden to transfer home any of the technology gained from their joining in the development of President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, one of the treaty's authors has warned.

On the eve of Britain signing a framework agreement with the US on SDI cooperation, Mr John Rhinelander, who together with Mr Gerard Smith negotiated and wrote the ABM treaty, said Article Nine expressly prohibited either side from transferring to other states ABM systems or their components.

He said the Russians had been particularly insistent on this point. It was reinforced with an agreed statement, which makes it clear that the technology transfer ban also included "technical descriptions or blueprints".

If the Administration agrees with the interpretation and abides by this restriction, the allies will not be able to make any use of the technology they win access to by helping the Americans in SDI research.

For West Germany in particular, this would be a big

blow: access to new high technology has been one of the main arguments used by Chancellor Kohl to convince his country that it should participate in the US programme.

Britain is content at this stage to sign an agreement only on joining in SDI research, which is not limited by the treaty. "We have chewed over this and gone into great detail", one official said. However, some officials believe the question of development could cause Britain problems later.

Mr Rhinelander also said Britain was likely to veto the planned US modernization of the early warning system at Fylingdales, as this was a clear violation of the ABM treaty, and Britain did not want a point of contention on its territory.

He said plans called for the conversion of the Yorkshire system from the present 180° radar, used purely for early warning of incoming missiles, to a 360° phased array radar that could be used for battlefield management was outlawed under the treaty's terms.

The updating of the radar in Thule, Greenland, would equally be a technical violation of the treaty, though less serious, he said. And he questioned the legality of the



US Secretary of State Mr George Shultz in discussion with Finnish President Mauno Koivisto in Helsinki where he stopped off on his way to Moscow

modernization of US radars in Texas and Georgia because they would then have "back coverage" to scan the skies behind as well as ahead of them.

The Russians recently offered at Geneva to halt construction of the Krasnoyarsk radar in Siberia, if the US dropped modernization plans at Fylingdales and Thule. The Adminis-

tration has rejected this as inequitable.

But Mr Rhinelander said the US, while rightfully demanding the dismantlement of Krasnoyarsk, would be in the embarrassing position of defending the new construction of its radars on the grounds that it did not amount to a deployment, which permits modernization.

British officials said they were "entirely satisfied" that what the Americans were proposing at Fylingdales was consistent with the treaty. The construction would not give it the capability for battle-man-

agement. Both Britain and the US say Fylingdales was in existence before the 1972 treaty, which permits modernization.

## Reshuffle rumoured as Argentines vote

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

Reports of an impending Cabinet reshuffle by President Alfonsín of Argentina gained strength as Argentines went to the polls yesterday to vote in the first mid-term congressional elections since 1965.

The Senate majority leader, Señor Antonio Napoli, was quoted as saying that some changes in the Cabinet "are very likely after the elections". Radical party appeared headed for a comfortable victory.

Other sources reported that the President was considering making changes in six or seven top government posts after an embarrassing legal bungle forced him to declare a 60-day state of siege on October 26 in order to detain 12 suspects in an alleged right-wing conspiracy to spoil the elections through a wave of symbolic bombings and threats.

The somewhat unusual state

of siege remained in effect yesterday but did not affect voting. The Government had guaranteed that constitutional rights and liberties would not be affected by the measure.

An estimated 18.5 million Argentines were expected to vote in the obligatory elections for municipal, provincial and congressional posts.

Pre-election opinion polls predicted that the Radical Party would win approximately 50 per cent of the votes and increase its slight majority in the Chamber of Deputies. The rival Peronist Party, split by bitter leadership struggles, was expected to do poorly in all but a handful of key districts.

● GUATEMALA CITY: The Army was on full alert yesterday as Guatemalans went to the polls to elect a civilian President after three decades of almost uninterrupted military rule (Reuter reports).

## First journalist saint

Rome (Reuter) - The Pope beatified Titus Brandsma, a Dutch journalist and priest who died in a Nazi concentration camp, in a solemn ceremony in St Peter's Basilica yesterday.

He is the first professional journalist to receive beatification, the last step before sainthood in the Roman Catholic Church.

When the Germans invaded The Netherlands he fought for press freedom and protected other Catholic journalists.

The Pope recalled the horrors of the Dachau concentration camp and praised Brandsma's Christian resignation.

"Because he did not react to hate with hate, but with love," the Pontiff said, Brandsma "came through this trial a victor."

"In the midst of raging hatred, he knew how to love everyone, even his jailers," the Pontiff told a crowd which included many Dutch and West German pilgrims.

# TO OR NOT TO

Flea beetles. Mealy bugs. Honey bees. Stalk borers. Cabbage stem weevils.

You're a common-or-garden human being, but you can probably pick out the hard-working honey bee from all those nasty, horrible pests.

Many insecticides can't. They wipe out goodies and baddies alike.

But now bees everywhere can hum a sigh of relief. Our bio-scientists have come up with an insecticide that can tell friend from foe.

The breakthrough came a few summers ago, on a test-plot of mustard. We set up some beehives, waited for the bees to gather pollen, then sprayed away.

Eureka. The findings showed that

our new formula spared the innocents.

The bees lived to tell the tale. We were optimistic. The bees were ecstatic.

Over the next couple of years, we carried out one field trial after another.

We sprayed fields of flowering crops. We tried our insecticide on winter wheat, where bees forage for honeydew. We used it when they were at their busiest, buzzing around for nectar.

Each time, much to the bee keepers' delight, with the same long term result.

Contented, busy-busy bees.

This was no isolated, one-off project. Our research centre in Kent carefully studies the environmental effect

of every new Shell agrochemical.

Be it an insecticide, fungicide or herbicide. (And more besides.)

Nor do we keep the results under wraps. We publish them in scientific journals for everyone, including our competitors, to examine.

Occasionally this may affect our balance sheet, but it's a bonus for the balance of nature.

As any honey bee, given the opportunity, will gladly confirm.

Our campaign to 'save the bee' took years of painstaking research. But if we hadn't taken him under our wing, who would have?

That is the question.

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## Angry settlement farmers block Israeli roads in protest at falling incomes

Angry Israeli farmers from West Bank and Golan Heights settlements blocked the bridges across the River Jordan and the road round the east of the Sea of Galilee with their tractors yesterday morning. More than 50 were arrested before the roads could be cleared.

The farmers are angry because they are going broke despite the fact that they have been boosting production by an average of 7 per cent a year over the past decade.

Mr Arye Nehamkin, the Agriculture Minister, yesterday had to ask the Cabinet to

approve \$90 million (£61 million) in emergency aid particularly to help 150 settlements which are in deep financial trouble. Significantly the money will go first of all to settlements in sensitive border areas.

The kibbutzim and moshavim, which were for so long a source of national pride, are struggling to balance their communal books. Farmers' incomes have fallen more rapidly than any other sector, despite the fact that their output has increased by 20 per cent in the past five years.

Nationally the farm debt now runs to \$400 million and last year alone the rapidly dwindling numbers of farmers saw their income in real terms reduced by 42 per cent.

In the past 25 years the number of full-time farmers has dropped from 17 per cent to 4.5 per cent of the working population. The present economic crisis threatens a real rush from the land, which would create a security problem in the border and occupied areas dominated by the settlements.

Israel sells the bulk of its produce to Europe and has therefore suffered as the dollar strengthened against European currencies. Moreover, there is considerable apprehension among farmers about the effect of Spanish and Portuguese entry into the EEC.

Some farmers also complain bitterly that the Likud governments deliberately made them subject to the laws of the market-place rather than provide a planned future. Labour politicians claim this was a deliberate attempt to undermine their movement, which is strong in the settlements.

Government-run hospitals, too, are suffering from a lack of money. One nursing home and three hospitals yesterday had their electricity cut off for failing to pay bills totalling more than £1 million.



The Princess of Wales at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Melbourne yesterday during her tour of Australia with the Prince of Wales, who played polo in the afternoon. The couple attended morning service at St Paul's Cathedral in Melbourne.

## Queen's Caribbean tour underlines American influence

From Christopher Thomas, Port of Spain, Trinidad

The Queen flew back to London from Trinidad yesterday after a 10-nation Caribbean tour that brought home forcibly the reality of United States supremacy in the former British West Indies.

The welcome was warm everywhere, but it sometimes lacked the enthusiasm of previous tours in the area. There often seemed a marked difference between the exuberance of official greetings and the subdued impact on ordinary people.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh had a stunning welcome in Belize, which still looks to Britain to protect it from the perceived threat of invasion from neighbouring Guatemala. Barbados produced perhaps the least spontaneous occasion because of crushingly tight security and hordes of over-zealous police officers.

The tour seemed occasionally to be peculiarly dated. The ancient language of the State Opening of Parliament in Grenada, together with all the pomp and procedure inherited from the island's recent colonial past, did not square with the reality of a Grenada now firmly identified with the United States.

The tour brought home the realization that Britain has lost to Japan and America in so many export markets, in spite of the historical connection. The Queen would have seen

hardly any new British cars on the streets of most of the islands she visited, but plenty between 20 and 30 years old.

The Duke of Edinburgh flew home on a scheduled British West Indian Airways flight on Saturday because of a long-standing engagement. Yesterday, after a ceremonial farewell that included a 21-gun salute, President Ellis Clarke waved the Queen off on her chartered jet. The last time the Queen was here, in 1966, she was head of state.

The most poignant part of her visit was in Grenada. The welcome on the streets was far from overwhelming, and there was even some carping about the cost of putting up lights and bunting around the small harbour. But, in spite of Grenada's mixed feelings towards the mother country, the Queen's opening of Parliament meant a great deal to a people who, until the American intervention of October, 1983, had known nothing but autocratic government since independence from Britain.

On her final night in Trinidad the Queen hosted a royal banquet on board Britannia. She told a banquet at the President's house earlier that some of the highlights of the Trinidad carnival seemed to have been incorporated into Britain's own annual festivities at Notting Hill in London.

Little America, page 10

## Split on Husain speech

Jerusalem - The Israeli Prime Minister's office and the Foreign Ministry yesterday came up with dramatically opposed interpretations of the latest speech by King Hussein of Jordan on the Palestinian problem and the Middle East peace process (Ian Murray writes).

They virtually ignored a hint from the King, who was opening a session of Parliament in Amman on Saturday, that he was prepared to buy arms anywhere if the United States refused to supply him.

The rival interpretations are explained by the fact that Mr Shimon Peres the Labour Prime Minister, wants negotiations to start quickly while

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, is suspicious of any negotiations.

The Prime Minister's office noted with pleasure that there was only one reference to the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO).

The Foreign Ministry pointed out that there was no mention of the current offer from Mr Peres to hold direct negotiations with Jordan.

The Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Roshni Mifal, said yesterday that the Prime Minister's office must have been looking at a totally different speech. He emphasized the King had said he was coordinating with the PLO.

## 21 police die in Mexico drug ambush

Mexico City (AP) - Drug traffickers in a Mexican village ambushed and killed 21 police officers who had found a marijuana shipment, torturing some before shooting them, state and federal officials said.

The army sent soldiers to take charge of the site, a remote settlement in the

mountains spanning the state border between Veracruz and Oaxaca.

The ambush was before dawn on Friday in Cahuapana, a village of 200 families. Two agents escaped and contacted authorities.

According to the official account, the federal and state

## Riot gas weapon at South African mine

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa's biggest mining house, The Anglo American Corporation, has admitted that anti-riot "tear smoke systems" were installed in some buildings at one of its mines.

The admission came after claims by the former Australian Prime Minister, Mr Malcolm Fraser, that an unnamed South African mine operated apparatus for pumping disabling gas through ventilation shafts into black miners living quarters.

Mr Fraser has been mentioned as a possible member of the Commonwealth "committee of eminent persons" entrusted by the Commonwealth conference in Nassau last month with the task of medi-

ating between Pretoria and black leaders. Mr Fraser's allegations were initially dismissed as "bizarre and unfounded" by the Chamber of Mines. But Anglo American has now conceded that "tear smoke systems" were installed in the mid-70s at its Western Deep Levels gold mine.

in the liquor stores, hotel kitchens and the administration offices, which could be activated by management. "After fighting between miners from different tribes in which several people died and property was damaged."

It was introduced "as a precaution to protect lives and property in the event of unrest", and had not been used since 1975.

## Boxer dies after last round KO

By Our Foreign Staff

A Junior-Lightweight boxer, Jacob Drake, aged 30, died yesterday from brain injuries several hours after he was knocked out in the 12th and final round of a bout in Sun City, Bophuthatswana, with fellow South African Brian Mitchell, ranked 18th in the world by the World Boxing Association.

Doctors gave oxygen to the unconscious boxer in the ring but he died in hospital in Pretoria.

In Seoul, Adan Garland of the United States flattened South Korea's Hwang In-Do in the first round of their middle-weight amateur bout. The South Korean needed emergency oxygen and left the ring on a stretcher.

In Tokyo, 28 Japanese boxers have been told to give up their careers after scans showed their brains were vulnerable to damage.

Japan is thought to be the only country which makes such scans compulsory.

The men have to give up boxing because of the width of the central gap between the left and right lobes of the brain. The Japanese Boxing Board believes that boxers with a larger-than-normal central gap are more likely to suffer shock damage to the brain from punches than others.

Their brains, however, are perfectly normal in every other sense.

## Pretoria's curbs on the media

Here is the text of the emergency regulation published on Saturday, in an extraordinary government Gazette.

Prohibition in respect of certain films, representations and sound recordings:

1. No person shall without the permission of the Commissioner of the SA (South African) Police, or of a commissioned officer, as defined in section 1 of the Police Act, 1958 (Act 7 of 1958), authorized thereto by the Commissioner, in any manner, make, take, record, manufacture, reproduce, publish, broadcast or distribute, or take or send to any place within or outside the Republic, any film as defined in section 47 (1) of the Publications Act, 1974 (Act 42 of 1974), or any photograph, drawing or other representation, or any sound recording, of:

(A) Any public disturbance, disorder, riot, public violence, strike or boycott, or any damaging of any property, or any assault on or killing of a person;

(B) Any person present at or involved in any public disturbance, disorder, riot, public violence, strike or boycott, or any damaging of any property, or any assault on or killing of any person, or

(C) Any conduct of a force or any member of a force with a view to the maintenance of the safety of the public or the public order or for the termination of the state of emergency;

or cause it to be made, taken, recorded, manufactured, reproduced, published, broadcast or distributed, or to be taken or sent to any such place, or attempt to commit any such act.

2. Any person who contravenes a provision of sub-regulation (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

## Karpov takes last time-out in face of uphill task

By Raymond Keene

Anatoly Karpov, the world chess champion, took his third and final time-out on Saturday, postponing until tomorrow the 22nd game of his world title-match against Gary Kasparov.

With the score 11½-9½, against him and only three games left, Karpov faces the daunting task of scoring 2½ points from the remaining three to retain his title. Kasparov needs only one point to become, at 22, the youngest world chess champion.

The final stage of the match could be further delayed, as the anniversary of the October Revolution falls next Thursday and match organizers may well take technical time-outs that day and over the following weekend.

In the world championship candidates' tournament, which finished at Montpellier, France, on Saturday, young Soviet grandmasters captured three of the four qualifying places. Former world champion Mikhail Tal (also Soviet Union) has

tied for the fourth and final qualifying place with the Dutch grandmaster, Jan Timman. They will play six games for the tie.

Final scores in this all Grandmaster event, described as the strongest 16-player tournament in chess history, were (scores out of a possible 15 points): Arthur Yusupov, Rafael Vaganian and Andrei Sokolov (all USSR) 9; Jan Timman (Netherlands) 8½; Boris Spassky (France - former world champion), Belyavsky (USSR) 8; Vasily Smyslov (USSR - former world champion) and Alexander Chernin (USSR) 7½; Nigel Short (England), Yass Seirawan (USA) and Lajos Portisch (Hungary) 7; Victor Korchnoi (Switzerland) and Zoltan Ribli (Hungary) 6½; Jesus Nogueras (Cuba) 5; Kevin Spraggett (Canada), Commonwealth champion) 5.

Nigel Short's debut at 20 at this level was creditable.

# Then John admitted he hadn't slept with his micro-computer for months.

Poor John. It was incompatibility. A few months ago, we both bought micros for our businesses. I chose the new Triumph Adler Alphatronic. He was seduced by a rather more obvious name.

### Life in pieces

My Alphatronic came complete, a perfect marriage of everything I needed. All the essentials others seem to regard as extras were included as standard, neatly contained in one perfectly designed machine.

Not so John's ill-fated match. His life was, quite literally, in pieces.

He found he needed a separate interface card for every extension he had to make. They were numerous, even including an expansion card for colour and yet another for graphics.

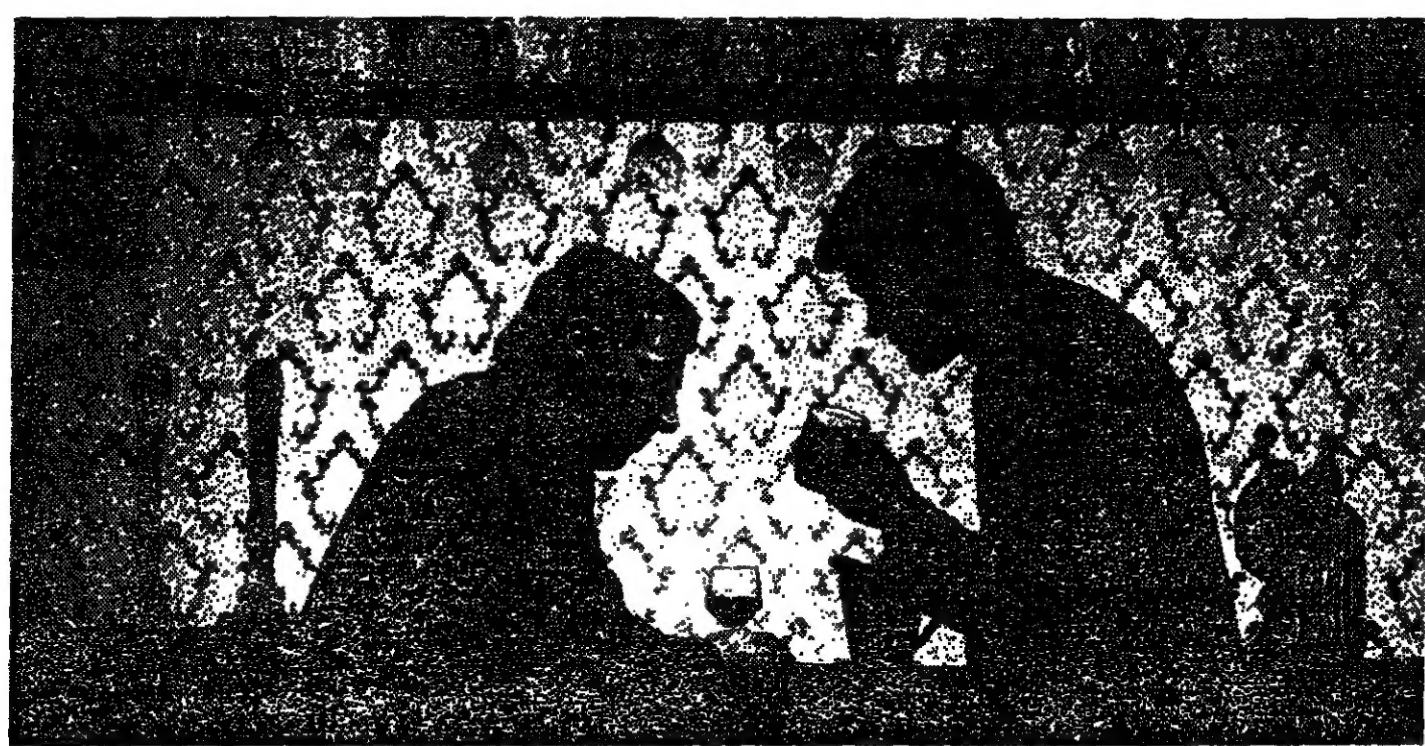
Every time he used an interface card, he used up a precious slot to put it in. Soon, all the slots were used up. So, he couldn't expand anymore.

### Endless arguments

Then, things started to go wrong, and because all his extensions came from different places, he had to argue with dealer after dealer to get them put right.

I gently reminded him that life with the Alphatronic presented no such headaches, affording me a single source of support from one, highly-knowledgeable dealer.

What's more, because it's so well-endowed to start with, the Alphatronic has many more



expansion possibilities. I recently added Prestel and a tape-streamer, (which records a whole day's work in twenty minutes), with no trouble at all.

John groaned, defeatedly.

Same old grind, every day

Apart from processing information up to three times faster, thanks to the powerful new Intel 80186 processor (a true 16-bit chip), my Alphatronic also warms up in seconds, rather than the two tedious minutes John's machine takes.

And whereas John says his disc-drives sound like an old washing machine, my Alphatronic is blissfully quiet in comparison.

### Irresistibly beautiful

I was always attracted by the Alphatronic's elegant appearance. Ergonomically designed, it's as pleasant to work with as it is to look at. With a keyboard and a screen that are both highly

developed yet simple to use. Just what you'd expect knowing that Triumph Adler is part of the design-conscious Volkswagen Group.

John's choice, on the other hand, left a lot to be desired in this respect.

### He's paid the price

On top of everything else, John now has to face the fact that he's paid over the odds for a computer that was always incapable of delivering what he bought it for. Any of the four Alphatronic models, with their different capacities, would have more than satisfied his needs from the start. And any of them would have run all the IBM compatible software he could possibly need.

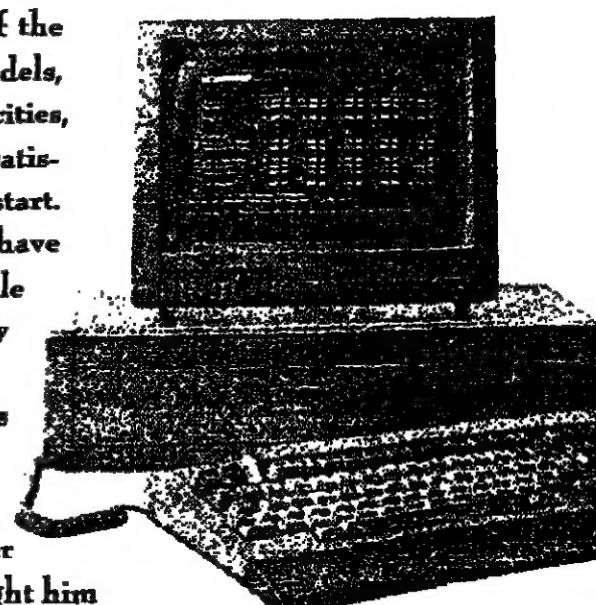
So, John bought his machine to save money, but in the long run, it's really cost him. No wonder he wasn't sleeping. I bought him

another drink and gave him an Alphatronic brochure to read on the train home.

For your, free, full-colour brochure on the new Alphatronics, simply send your business card or letterhead to:

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## Unending flow of boat people prompts protest by Jakarta

From Paul Routledge, Jakarta

The largely forgotten boat people of Vietnam are still fleeing the 10-year-old communist regime at the rate of more than 1,000 a month.

Guided by the currents and an oil-platform flare in the South China Sea, many are heading for Indonesia, and the influx is straining relations between Jakarta and Hanoi.

As the monsoons abate, more and more boats are leaving Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon. Their uncertain and dangerous journey can cost \$2,000 (£1,000) a head.

Indonesia is at present to Vietnam later this month, that the exodus has been turned into a commercial migration business, and that Hanoi is not doing enough to stem the flow.

The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) which maintained a camp for more than 9,000 boat people on Galang Island in the Riau archipelago, is compelled to accept the newcomers even though it has suffered a 25 per cent cut in budget because of the extra call on its funds for Africa.

The UN agency is also having trouble finding third countries to take the refugees, particularly the elderly and disabled. About 5 per cent of the camp inhabitants have been there for more than two years.

There is more than a suspicion on the Indonesian side that some lower-level officials in Vietnam are collaborating with the traffickers in this human trade.

"These new boat people are not pure refugees," one government source said. "The question of repatriation is something we would like to take up with Vietnam."

UNHCR takes a more generous view of the plight of the boat people, arguing that life in their native country must be unpleasant, even dangerous.

However, the agency admits that it is getting harder to resettle the refugees in the West, where most want to go. The United States, Australia and Canada have taken 75 per cent of the 89,000 refugees processed through the Indonesian centre since 1979.

Britain has taken only 83. Recent requests for more help were rebuffed on the ground that resettling the thousands of boat people in Hong Kong is more important.

The refugees' plight is likely to become more, rather than less, acute. Malaysia has announced its intention to close the Bidong Island centre. Singapore takes few, and only on the strictest understanding of resettlement. Indonesia already takes about a third, and this proportion seems certain to grow while the military-backed government becomes more prone to "compassion fatigue".

The UNHCR sees the exodus as "an unabated outflow" and fears that, unless it is stopped at the root, President Suharto's Administration will start to show exasperation. "Compassion is wearing thin. It is now 10 years since the fall of Saigon."

While the problem gets bigger, the agency's budget has been substantially cut because of the enormous cost of looking after famine refugees in Africa.

The boat people are being put on a cheaper diet, with eggs substituting for fish. Only essential repairs are being carried out in the makeshift town on the previously uninhabited Galang Island, which served as a processing centre for the repatriation of Japanese soldiers from South-East Asia at the end of the Second World War.

As the Government is not prepared to face facts, we decided to take a courageous step against this miserable law," Senora Cristina Garzaizabal, spokeswoman at the rally, declared after the operations.

The 4,000 feminists who attended the rally promised that, if the Barcelona public prosecutor attempted to put those responsible for the operations on trial, they would try to swamp the courts.

The three-day rally was called to review the general situation of Spanish women 10 years after the death of Franco, who made abortion a punishable offence under all circumstances.

Senor Fernando Ledesma, the Justice Minister, has promised to widen the abortion law's scope when a majority wants it.

A group of prominent jurists said yesterday that they are preparing a guide to permit doctors to exercise all their legal rights to prevent the abortion law's implementation. Feminist groups have particularly protested about doctors employed by the national health service who invoke the conscience clause to refuse operations.

As a public challenge to Spain's three-month-old abortion law, which they regard as inadequate, two young women had abortions during a feminist rally which ended yesterday in Barcelona.

The operation was performed by midwives on Saturday in a hostel with the organizers said, full clinical facilities. The two women were chosen because they were seeking to have the operation performed in London.

The operations were kept secret at the rally, but a video film was shown to those present and to the press as proof.

The Government's law allows termination of pregnancy when the mother has been the victim of rape or when two doctors agree that the child would be born with a physical or mental handicap.

The feminists in Barcelona claimed that the present law leaves 97 per cent of the cases of Spanish women who desire an abortion unattended. Legal abortions in Spain during the first two months of the new legislation totalled only 19, according to official figures.

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## Harare health drive cuts infant mortality

In the first of two articles on social conditions five years after independence Jan Raach, Harare correspondent, describes efforts to improve health in rural areas.

No case of Aids has yet been detected in Zimbabwe, but the disease inevitably will arrive. It is already entrenched on the country's northern and southern borders.

Before it does, the medical establishment here is praying that panic reaction will not force it to divert scarce resources to immensely expensive curbing for a few, away from a fundamental national health effort that will save the lives of thousands.

That effort has halved the infant mortality rate from about 140 deaths per 1,000 births to 75 in the five years since independence. Dramatic declines in the incidence of diarrhoea and respiratory tract infections (the cause of a quarter of rural deaths in children under four), measles (15 per cent of child mortality), polio, malaria, pneumonia, tuberculosis and eye diseases are confirmed by government doctors and foreign aid agencies.

At independence, the government of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, inherited a population which, especially in the rural areas, was largely debilitated by endemic diseases

and malnutrition after seven years of guerrilla war. Nearly half the Ministry of Health's budget went to sophisticated and racially-segregated hospitals in the urban centres. A policy of primary health care was adopted as a matter of urgency.

This new health care effort has already made considerable progress towards its objectives: to eliminate the main causes of disease and disability - by upgrading access to potable water, establishing adequate sanitation, implementing wide-spread immunization programmes, popularizing an array of 7,000 poorly paid village health workers and establishing hundreds of small clinics.

The village health workers operate in the tiny hamlets that cover the Zimbabwean countryside, cajoling mothers into the basics of balanced nutrition and cleanliness, and trying to demystify traditional practices like the common use of cowdung as a sterilizing agent.

A massive borehole-drilling and well-digging programme has brought a third of rural families within close reach of clean water. The drive continues but the balance of people still draw their water from billiard-table-sized rivers. (In one province 97 per cent of people carry the parasite) and muddy pools that are simultaneously used for washing soiled nappies, bathing, swimming and drinking.

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But another 1984 survey found 71 per cent now had health facilities within five miles of their homes.

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Tomorrow: Education



A doctor examining a child at a mission clinic in rural Zimbabwe.

## Solidarity accuses police after student dies

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The Polish police have again come under sharp criticism from Solidarity sympathizers after the death at the weekend of a chemistry student, Marcin Antonowicz, aged 19, had been in hospital with serious brain injuries since October 19. He was found unconscious in the street in his home town of Olaszyn, in northern Poland, shortly after being detained by police.

Solidarity has a dossier of interviews with doctors, lawyers and eye witnesses, and compares the case with that of Grzegorz Przemyski, a Warsaw student who died of internal injuries more than two years ago after being held in a police station.

The police version of the latest incident is that they picked up the student at 10pm as he returned from a party. Friends say Mr Antonowicz was not drunk, but police insisted on taking him by van to a sobering station. The police claim that the student grabbed an officer by the throat, opened the van door and jumped out.

An initial communiqué by the local prosecutor's office says that he "suffered a serious head injury after falling on the asphalt street."

Solidarity believes that the injuries are more consistent with a beating.

Tomorrow: Education

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£ 3,000	£ 30.00	£12,000	£120.00	£25,000	£250.00
£ 4,000	£ 40.00	£13,000	£130.00	£30,000	£300.00
£ 5,000	£ 50.00	£14,000	£140.00	£35,000	£350.00
£ 6,000	£ 60.00	£15,000	£150.00	£40,000	£400.00
£ 7,000	£ 70.00	£16,000	£160.00	£45,000	£450.00
£ 8,000	£ 80.00	£17,000	£170.00	£50,000	£500.00
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£10,000	£100.00	£19,000	£190.00		

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## NATIONAL SAVINGS INCOME BONDS



PROSPECTUS 1 October 1984

1 The Director of Savings (hereinafter referred to as the Director) has been authorised by the Treasury to issue this Prospectus for National Savings Income Bonds (hereinafter referred to as Bonds).

2 The Bonds are Government securities issued under the National Savings Act 1968. They are registered with the National Savings Stock Register and are subject to the Regulations relating to the National Savings Stock Register for the time being in force as far as they are applicable to the Bonds.

3 A Bond is a certificate of debt of £1,000 or a multiple of £1,000. It is issued in the form of a certificate and is payable to the order of the holder or to the order of the person named in the certificate.

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3 My address is: Address including post code

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5 My name and address for despatch of investment certificate (if different from above):

6 My name and address for dividend payments (if different from above):

7 My signature is: Signature

8 My date is: Date

## British women clinch world bridge title

From a Bridge Correspondent, São Paulo

After their comprehensive defeat of the USA in the final of the Venice Cup, the British women's team is firmly established as the best in the world.

They won the last Venice Cup contest in 1981 beating the USA in the final. In 1984 they outscored the USA in the final of the teams Olympiad, losing only because of points carried over from the qualifying rounds in the USA's favour. Friday's win, by a score of 323-213, established Britain as firm favourites to retain the trophy in Jamaica two years from now.

Pax Davies, Nicola Smith, Sally Horton and Sandra Landy were members of all three winning teams and will be a power 10 years from now. Gill Scott-Davies and Michèle Brun-

ner gave excellent support and seem likely to be further opportunities while Grattan Endicott as non-playing captain and Gus Calderwood as coach, gave invaluable moral support and technical advice which the players regard as a decisive factor. The USA won the sixth successive Bermuda Bowl when they beat Austria 399-324 in the 174-board final after being held for the first 80 boards. The new champions, Bob Hamman and Bobby Wolff, Chip Martel and Lew Stansby, Peter Bender and Hugh Ross, with non-playing captain Alfred Shelnoff, survived by a hair's breadth in their semi-final match against the host country, Brazil, when the scores were level with one board to play.

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# Why apricot continues to outgrow the competition.

The Apricot family tree has seen spectacular growth in recent years.

We first set up shop twenty years ago writing business software. In the last four years we've grown from being a leading UK distributor of hardware to become the second largest manufacturer of micro's in Europe.

This has been achieved by constantly outselling and outperforming rival offerings from established mini and mainframe manufacturers.

An equal partner in the mix is the fact that we've

consistently provided business solutions tailor-made to suit the exact needs of Apricot users.

Consequently, we now have the second biggest slice of Britain's micro market as well as the largest compatible and networkable range of personal computers in the world.

Each being fully capable of an intelligent exchange of information with both mini and mainframe computers.

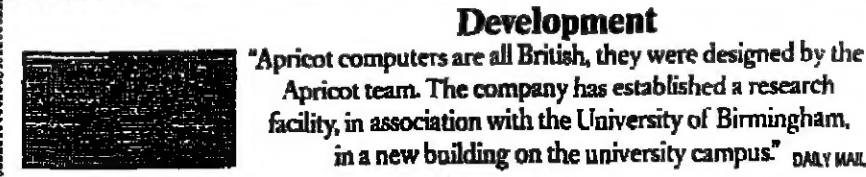
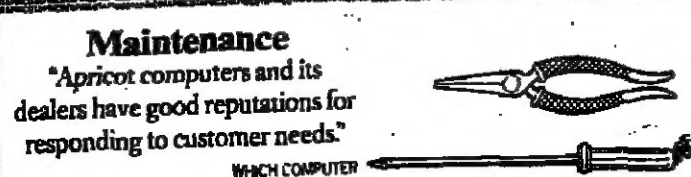
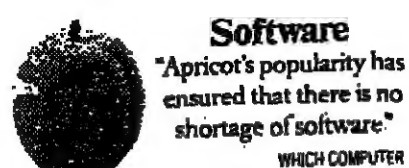
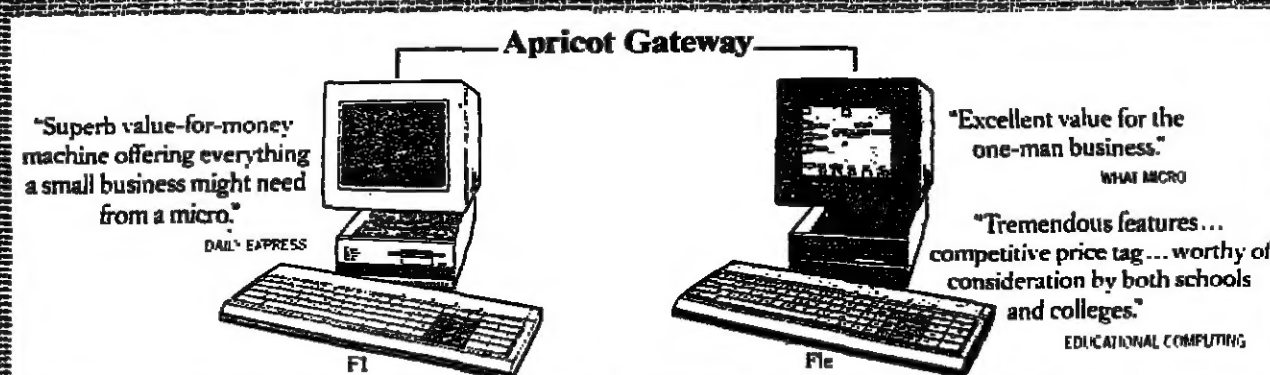
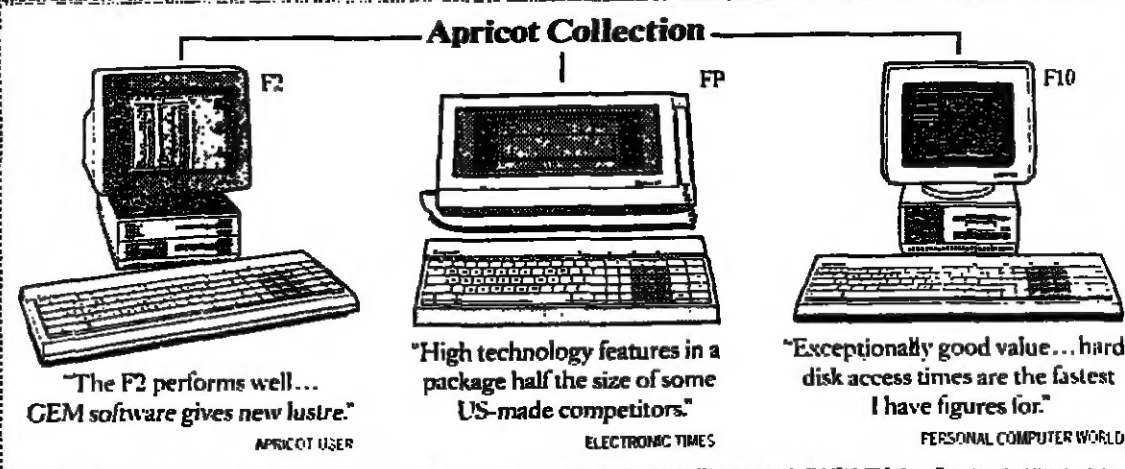
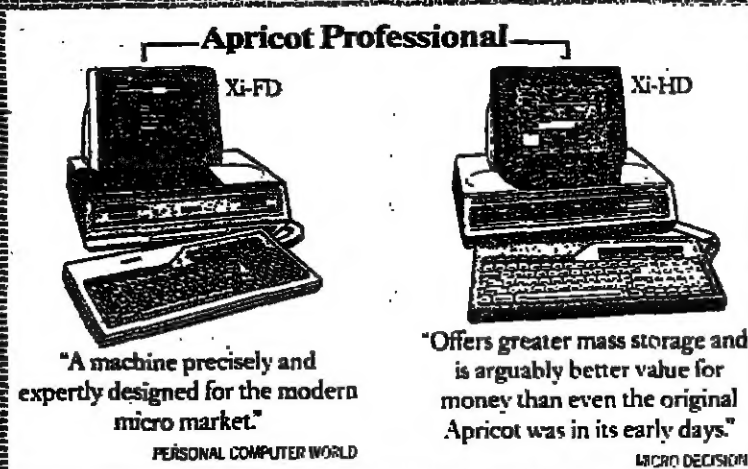
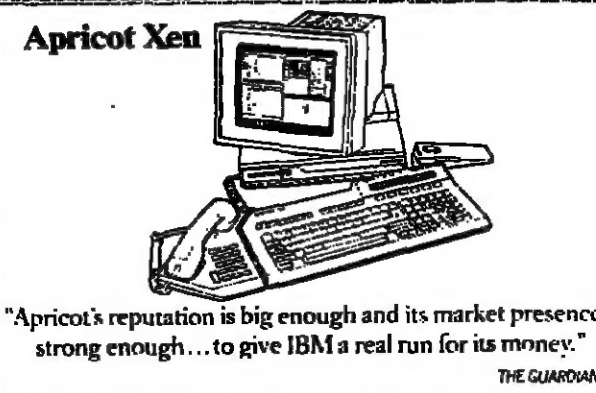
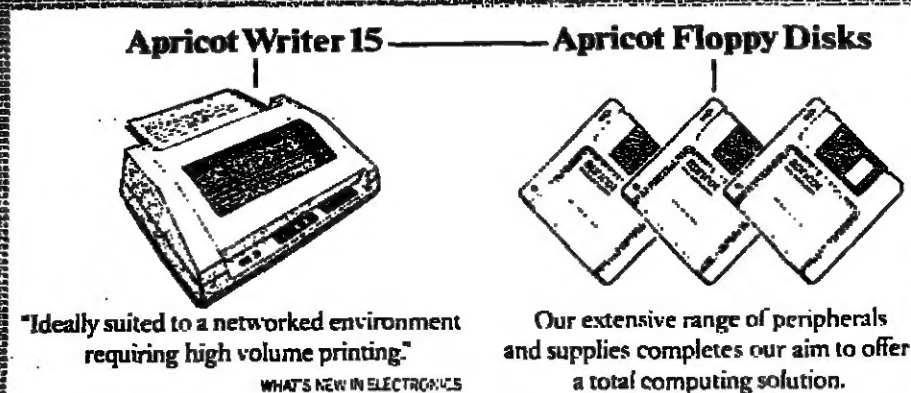
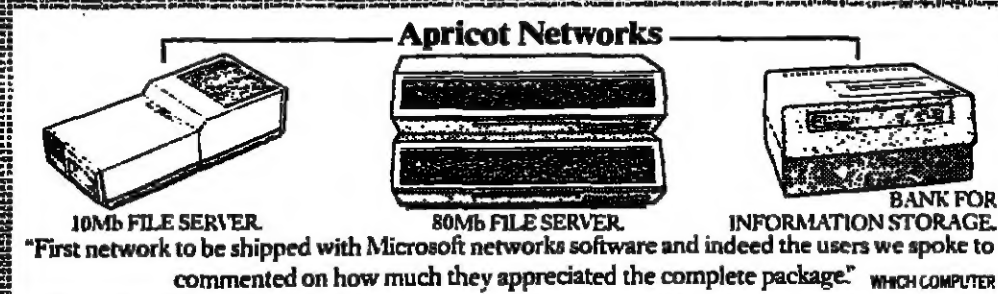
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# The anatomy of a divided nation

## Is apartheid changing?

The system at the centre of international debate is often only crudely understood: Michael Hornsby looks at what apartheid really means, how it has shifted, and the chances for reform

Blacks who have lost it. They will, however, retain their "homeland" citizenship as well, so it is not clear what this potentially important reform, still to be implemented, will mean in practice.

### LAND OWNERSHIP

Land Acts passed in 1913 and 1936 reserved 13 per cent of South Africa for Occupation by Blacks. These "homelands" or "black national states", as they are now called, are supposed to satisfy the political and economic aspirations of 73 per cent of the population.

In practice, even the government now acknowledges that these overpopulated, fragmented and generally impoverished tracts of land have failed in their objective. They are still seen, however, as constituent building blocks in some future racial-cum-geographical federation.

Since 1913 Blacks, unlike other groups, have been barred from purchasing land anywhere outside the reserves. Over the past decade, forms of leasehold ownership have been introduced, but only for the limited number of Blacks permitted to live in ghetto "townships" outside the reserves (see Pass Laws).

In January Botha promised that freehold property ownership would be extended to these so-called urban Blacks (putting them on a par with Coloureds and Indians who can own their own homes in their respective "group areas"). It is still only a promise.

### FORCED REMOVALS

The government is estimated to have uprooted and resettled some 3.5 million people since 1960. Blacks have been the overwhelming majority of those affected, and most have been moved against their will.

They include black tenants evicted from white farms, various forms of removals from white-designated areas to the "homelands", the expropriation of "black spots" (pockets of land purchased or settled by Blacks outside the reserves before 1913), and intra-city removals caused by racial re-zoning under the Group Areas Act (see Residential and Social).

In February, 1985, the government announced that removals would be halted while the resettlement policy was re-examined. Since then some "black spots" previously threatened with removal have been allowed to remain, and concessions have been made to black squatters in the Cape Town area.

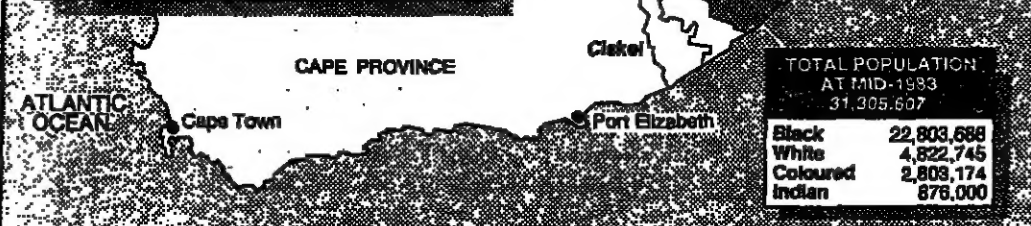
Resettlement for the purpose of racial segregation remains government policy, however, and is likely to continue, even if the numbers involved will probably be smaller in future.

### PASS LAWS

The basic law is section 10 of the Black (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act. It stipulates that no Black may remain for more than 72 hours outside the reserves without a permit unless he or she has (a) resided in the area since birth or (b)

WHITES			
Province	Population mix	Number	% of total White population
Transvaal	Various	2,686,441	53.63
Cape	Various	1,286,080	26.73
Natal	Mainly English	585,018	12.15
Orange Free State	Mainly Afrikaans	334,998	6.94
Various homelands	Various	26,208	.55

INDIANS			
Province	Population mix	Number	% of total Indian population
Natal	Various	706,691	80.67
Transvaal	Mainly Zulu	127,423	14.55
Cape	Various	33,204	3.79
Orange Free State	None	None	None
Various homelands	Various	8,682	.99



Separate development: How the country is allocated between its four groups, and the sub-divisions within them

BLACKS			
Homeland	Tribes	Number	% of total Black population
KwaZulu	Zulu	3,778,802	16.57
Gazankulu	Tsonga	582,508	2.55
Labovha	North Sotho	1,862,514	8.17
QwaQwa	South Sotho	306,000	1.34
KwaNdebele	South Ndebele	225,792	.99
KaNgwane	Swazi	183,763	.81
Transkei	Xhosa	2,524,383	11.07
Ciskei	Xhosa	729,441	3.19
Bophuthatwana	Tswana	1,433,434	6.29
Venda	Venda	378,470	1.65
Total homeland population		12,000,867	52.63

Non-homeland population			
Province	Tribal mix	Number	% of total Black population
Transvaal	Various	5,970,354	26.18
Cape	Mainly Xhosa	1,689,507	7.43
Orange Free State	Various	1,885,427	7.39
Natal	Mainly Zulu	1,453,533	6.37
Total non-homeland population		10,898,821	47.37

COLOURED			
Province	Population mix	Number	% of total Coloured population
Cape	Various	2,357,890	94.12
Transvaal	Various	266,288	5.60
Natal	Various	85,479	3.41
Orange Free State	Various	59,635	2.18
Various homelands	Various	23,802	.85

### POLITICAL RIGHTS

The new constitution which came into force on September 3 last year provides for a segregated, three-chamber Parliament for Whites, Coloureds and Indians. Only persons of the appropriate population group may be elected to each chamber and only persons of the same group may vote for them.

The legislative procedure is rigged so that the wishes of the majority party in the white chamber will always prevail, even if opposed by the two other chambers and other parties in the white chamber. Blacks can only vote in elections to tribal assemblies in their "homelands" and in local elections to councils in black townships outside. From next January they will be represented with other races on new "regional services councils".

In January of this year Botha promised Blacks outside the "homelands" - and only those - a political say "at the highest level". He has made clear that this does not mean a single parliament for all races, or even the addition of a segregated fourth chamber for Blacks.

In a speech on September 30 in Port Elizabeth he hinted at some kind of federation, composed of racially and geographically defined units, each of which would be represented on a central body. He talked of power-sharing, but said he would not permit the white minority

to be "overwhelmed without structures to protect its birthright". Earlier in the year, the ban on racially-mixed political parties was lifted. The practical impact of this reform is limited given that parties must still operate within a segregated political system.

A number of political organizations are outlawed and it is a treasonable offence to be a member of them. They are the African National Congress (ANC), the most widely supported black nationalist organization, which also has white, coloured and Indian members, the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), an ANC offshoot, and the South African Communist Party.

### EDUCATION

#### SCHOOLS

State schools are segregated, and the government has made clear they will remain so. Private schools, attended by about 6 per cent of white schoolchildren, are allowed to accept pupils of all races. A few Blacks who can afford the fees send their children to them.

It was only in 1983 that the government formally committed itself to the principle of equal quality for all races, thus abandoning the doctrine of "Bantu education" which held that there was "no place for (Blacks) in the European community above the level of certain forms of labour".

In two years, Grenada has softened. The atmosphere is relaxed. The prospect of a future with a hand constantly in America's pocket has bred optimism and expectation. But things are not changing overnight and a feeling of let-down is evident among some.

The best has been given. It is now certain that US aid will start to drop sharply, bringing it more into line with the support other islands get.

The Queen's visit has done much to ease the ill-feeling between friends of 200 years, although Grenada will probably never fully comprehend the mother country's lack of jubilation for the former colony's "liberation". But perhaps time will mend the damage, as it assuredly will take away Grenada's unrealistic starry-eyed view of America.

Christopher Thomas

In practice, equality is still a distant goal. Schooling is free and compulsory for Whites and Indians up to the age of 16, but not for Blacks or Coloureds. Only 2 per cent of Blacks complete primary and secondary schooling and obtain a school-leaving certificate, compared with 58 per cent of Whites. Eight times as much is spent on the education of a white child as on that of a black.

### UNIVERSITIES

De facto segregation is still the general rule. There are five main universities for Blacks, located in the "homelands", one for Coloureds near Cape Town and one for Indians near Durban.

There are 10 predominantly white universities, five for Afrikaans-speakers and five for English-speakers. Afrikaans universities only have a handful of non-white students, but about 14 per cent of students at English universities are Black, Coloured or Indian.

### EMPLOYMENT

The Labour Relations Act was amended several times between 1979 and 1982 to include Blacks in the official definition of an "employee" and so grant them the right to form or join registered trade unions. About 7 per cent of the black workforce are unionized.

The mobility of black workers remains severely curtailed (see Pass Laws). The tribal "homelands" are used as dumping grounds for surplus black labour, and the black unemployment rate is estimated at between 20 and 30 per cent.

Over the past five years statutory reservation of jobs for Whites has been abolished, except in the mines, which employ close to 600,000 Blacks. Only Whites qualify for blasting certificates, without which it is impossible to become a fully-fledged miner. The government says it intends to remove this restriction next year.

There is nothing to prevent employers from refusing to hire Blacks.

Various laws still provide for the racial segregation of residential areas, and a wide range of public amenities, such as trains, buses, taxis, town halls, hospitals, libraries, parks, museums, art galleries, toilets, cinemas, theatres, hotels, restaurants, clubs, beaches and pleasure resorts.

The tendency in recent years has been to enforce these laws less strictly, and local practice varies quite widely. But segregation is still the general rule, and relaxation is almost always qualified and partial.

Most theatres have been integrated for some years, but cinemas (apart from some drive-ins) are still segregated. Recently, the government announced that the two main cinema chains could apply to open 21 indoor cinemas in the central business district of Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and Pietermaritzburg (out of some 130 they operate throughout the country).

The government also says it intends to lift all race restrictions on the catering trade next year. At present, only a small number of hotels and restaurants with "international" status can serve all races.

Botha has said there will be no repeal of the Group Areas Act, which enforces racial separation of residential areas and related amenities such as hospitals and schools, which are vastly superior in white areas.

The abolition was announced earlier this year of the Mixed Marriages Act and section 16 of the Immorality Act, which banned marriage - and sexual relations outside marriage - between Whites on the one hand and Blacks, Coloured or Indians.

Mixed couples, however, are still subject to other apartheid laws. They are not free, for example, to choose where they want to live. This is decided for them by the Minister of Home Affairs.

There is now no formal bar to the selection of a national South African team in any sport on the basis of merit alone. But most sporting facilities are still segregated, and the quality of those available to Blacks are vastly inferior. School sport is almost totally segregated.

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### TOMORROW

TV eye: A Times poll shows that public attitudes to television directly contradict the view of the TV companies

## Britain reduced to a bystander in Uncle Sam's treasured island

The practical things count most, like having the dustman call, getting new desks for the school, repairing the old orphanage, fixing the roads. Sometimes even the telephones work and for days at a time there is not a power cut. America is steadily modernizing Grenada, much to the jealousy of Caribbean neighbours who complain that the spice island gets more than its share. As Barbados is "Little England", so Grenada is gladly becoming "Little America".

The Americans have now left with their black Hawk helicopters and C-130 transporters. Army lorries no longer tear up the little roads. The coils of barbed wire have disappeared from the Grenada beach hotel, the former US military headquarters on one of the finest shores in the island. The only thing American left behind is money. And, of course, an irreversible emotional and territorial stake in this southernmost Windward island.

Grenada has a fierce affection for America. There is talk of pronouncing October 25 "liberation day". Much as the Queen and Prince Philip were welcomed last Thursday, Ronald Reagan would have pulled bigger crowds. He is revered, and so is his money. This was a British colony for nearly 200 years, but loyalties are now to Washington, not London. Britain's refusal to join in Grenada's joy at being "liberated" has left a great deal of ill-feeling, sadness and genuinely confused feelings towards the mother country.

So far the United States has shovelled some £40 million into Grenada, a fabulous amount for an island of 100,000 people. Canada, Britain and the EEC have also contributed. Everywhere there is activity. They are cleaning up the water supply, improving sanitation, providing emergency generators for the hospital, working on the electricity problems.

But there is more to it than that. The temper of the island has changed. Two years ago Grenada was a crushed, broken country after nine tormented years of independence from Britain. These years are an ugly, half-forgotten memory, like them principal authors, Gairy, Bishop, Austin and Coard. Up to the time of the American intervention Grenada had never tasted real democ-



The Queen in Grenada: a welcome tinged by regret

racy. For nine years it fell prey to demagogues. Even now Sir Eric Gairy, as he became in 1977, is trying to stir up trouble in the countryside. As Prime Minister after independence he was brutal. People remember his mongroose gang, the beatings, the intimidation, the confiscation of property.

It is to almost everybody's relief that a farmworkers' strike he summoned is floundering. His Grenada United Labour Party (GULP) won a single seat in the 15-member House of Representatives at the end of last year. But he ordered the incumbent to stand down. Much to his fire, the victor refused and formed his own party. Times are not good for Sir Eric. America has even taken away his visa.

High above St George's harbour Richmond Hill Prison looks out over the Caribbean. Therein 19 people await trial for murders carried out during the trannas of October 1983 when the prime minister, Maurice Bishop, and unknown numbers of others died in a hail of gunfire from Grenadian soldiers at Fort George, the stronghold named

after King George III when Grenada became British in 1763.

The defendants include General Hudson Austin, who headed the short-lived regime toppled by the US; Bernard Coard, the chief intellectual and ideologue of Bishop; and his Jamaican-born wife, Phyllis.

When they might come to trial is anybody's guess. The presence of the 19 hangs ominously over Grenada. Here is a tangible reminder of the past and a cause for future pain. Many questions remain unanswered, not least the whereabouts of the body of Maurice Bishop (still a popular figure here).

A year ago the island held a general election. America had a definite hand in the victory of the New National Party under Herbert Blaize. The outcome was inevitable. Grenada would have voted for the Devil if the US had asked it to.

And yet, just two years later, there is not an American in sight, and the Queen is being greeted by Sir Paul Scoon, the Governor General who probably kept her in the dark about the invasion plans. Prime Minister Blaize was heard saying that he

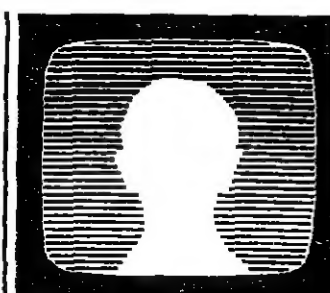
bore no ill feelings towards the Queen for disapproving of the American operation. This is an easy-going island but despite Blaize's reassurance the special relationship with Britain has taken a blow because Mrs Thatcher still will not lend the invasion.

In two years, Grenada has softened. The atmosphere is relaxed. The prospect of a future with a hand constantly in America's pocket has bred optimism and expectation. But things are not changing overnight and a feeling of let-down is evident among some.

The best has been given. It is now certain that US aid will start to drop sharply, bringing it more into line with the support other islands get.

The Queen's visit has done much to ease the ill-feeling between friends of 200 years, although Grenada will probably never fully comprehend the mother country's lack of jubilation for the former colony's "liberation". But perhaps time will mend the damage, as it assuredly will take away Grenada's unrealistic starry-eyed view of America.

Christopher Thomas

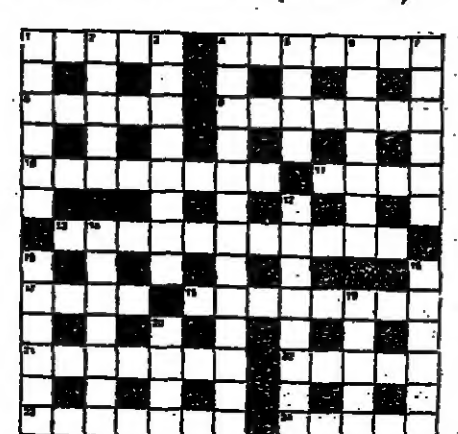


### TOMORROW

TV eye: A Times poll shows that public attitudes to television directly contradict the view of the TV companies

### CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 791)

- ACROSS
- Aspect (5)
  - Release grip (7)
  - Principal gas pipes (5)
  - Cal de sac (4,3)
  - Surgical tie (8)
  - Colonnaded walk (4)
  - Slave trade reformer (11)
  - Hurt (4)
  - Nearly (8)
  - Reverence (7)
  - Bury (5)
  - Spending bout (7)
  - Reckoning (5)
- DOWN
- Taxonomic group (6)
  - Hang on (5)
  - Lab vessel (4,4)
  - Univ student (13)
  - Idle talk (4)
  - Clerm free (7)
  - Hawker (6)



- Plant scientist (8)
- Put in position (7)
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# Born the wrong side of the law

Some absurd anomalies still exist in the status of illegitimate children and the rights - or otherwise - of their parents.

Heather Kirby reports on what various organizations and pressure groups are recommending to change the law

A woman is married, has two children and conceives a third, all by her husband, but she is divorced before the baby is born. It is therefore illegitimate. It sounds too preposterous to be true but that is the law as it stands at the moment. An all-party group of MPs is meeting today to discuss how to change it.

Absurd anomalies, as well as a sadly still-prevalent social stigma to do with being illegitimate or the parent of an illegitimate child, are legion. Take, for instance, a model of upwardly mobile single motherhood who wants to become a mature student with the idea of improving her mind and at the same time increasing her chances of improving her financial position for the child. If she were divorced, she would be able to get a larger student grant than she can claim as an unmarried single parent. The philosophy behind this nice distinction is that her standard of living has not gone down. Goodness knows how much public money is saved by denying unmarried students the extra cash, but such discrimination does smack of moral wrist-slapping in the guise of careful budgeting.

There were 110,000 children born outside marriage last year, one in every six, an increase of 96 per cent over the last decade, partly because the illegitimate birth-rate has not declined whereas the legitimate one has. The National Council for One-Parent Families has been pressing for changes in the law relating to illegitimacy since the 1920s. The Law Commission set up a working party to consider the subject in 1976 and the recommendations contained in the Family Law Reform Bill were accepted by the Government in 1982.

## 'When you're young you don't realize what things cost'

Since then the Bill has been gathering dust in what is campaigning MP Leo Abse colourfully described as "the cemetery of social legislation which is piling up in the Whitehall graveyard".

The Law Commission recommends that there should be no legal distinction between the children born to parents who are married and the child born to parents who are not. This removes the legal disadvantages attaching to illegitimacy, of which there are many.

This radical approach is supported and welcomed by concerned organizations like the Children's Legal Centre, the Mothers Union and the Solicitors' Family Law Association,

among others. They all signed a letter to the Lord Chancellor in June this year pointing out that further delay in changing the illegitimacy laws would mean the Government's continued contravention of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Dr Carol Smart, then director of the National Council for One-Parent Families (she has now been succeeded by Sue Slipman, a former president of the National Union of Students), wrote: "We hope that you will find the parliamentary time to introduce the Family Law Reform Bill in the next session."

No such luck. The Government's case, as put forward by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, is that the recommendations would result in an increase in legal aid expenditure and the bill must, therefore, wait until the necessary resources become available.

Since everyone agrees that the present laws are iniquitous, the pressure group hopes to persuade one of the MPs who will win the Private Members' Bill on November 21 to take up the cause.

Although Sir Alec Guinness and Cyril Smith may appear to cope with their social status with aplomb, there are thousands of others who feel shame and resentment. It is a crumby kind of society which instils a sense of feeling different and inferior on blameless children as a way of punishing the mother for contravening its moral code.

Liz Lambert is a 30-year-old mother from Liverpool with three sons: David aged ten, Michael aged seven, and Aaron who is four. They all share the same father but Aaron was born after she was divorced. "When I went to register Aaron two weeks after he was born they said I had to put 'father unknown' on his birth certificate," she says. "Apparently it is up to the father. He has to fill in the forms and Aaron's father is just not the type who will bother to do that."

"So two of his children have a legal claim on him and the third one hasn't. It seems very silly. I wish they would change the law because it worries me having that on Aaron's birth certificate. How is he going to feel about it when he gets older?"

One of the unfair laws which One-Parent Families wants to see changed is the three-year time limit for an unmarried mother to seek maintenance from the child's father. All too often during that period she is emotional, distraught, preoccupied with her new baby, her altered circumstances, changes in her health. A whole barrage of perfectly understandable reasons can combine to prevent her from going cap in hand to



the child's father or battling her way through solicitors and court hearings to claim maintenance. Lesley Underwood is 34, her illegitimate daughter Nicola is now 15, and they live in a two-bedroom flat in Fulham on social security of £53 a week.

## 'Either you take him or he is up for adoption'

"Her father didn't volunteer any money and I was too proud to ask at the time," she says. "Besides, when you're young you don't realize what things are going to cost. It is when children get older and you find out how expensive their clothes are, shoes that cost £20 a pair for instance. Then you start thinking you should have something, but by then it's too late."

The laws of inheritance are another area where illegitimate children suffer unnecessarily harshly. If a grandparent dies without leaving a will, an illegitimate child has no legal rights under the normal intestacy rules. Even if the grandparent had no intention of cutting the child off without a penny, that is what would happen.

A Brighton mother who did not wish to be named gave the example of her son, whose father is now a well-off accountant, married to someone else but with no other children. He owns a home in London which must be worth over £200,000

but if anything happened to him and his wife, a distant relative could claim the property, not our son," she says. "I know it would be the answer but in our sort of circumstances it is a subject you just can't bring up."

A baby born in this country used to be automatically British but, since the Nationality Act which came into force in January 1983, the whole basis of this law has changed. Now the parents' nationality also comes into it, so if they are married, their child can take the nationality of either mother or father. If they are unmarried, the child can only adopt the nationality of its mother even if the father acknowledges the child as his.

Fran Logan, legal adviser to One-Parent Families says: "It is important for people to be aware of these changes. Depending on the nationality of the mother and the laws of her own country, the child could end up being stateless. In some countries a child can only inherit its father's nationality."

The present structure of the laws governing maintenance claims is shamelessly biased against unmarried mothers. Whereas a married woman has recourse to the county court or even the high court for financial aid from the father's income, unmarried mothers are permitted only to go to a magistrates' court. There the upper limit for a lump-sum payment is £500.

If the laws affecting maintenance are blatantly discriminatory against unmarried mothers, unmarried fathers receive even less justice. The wording in

affiliation law refers only to "woman" so a man cannot even go to the magistrates' court for maintenance. The whole question of his rights needs to be readjusted in the light of present-day trends.

Men have been successfully fighting for custody of their children for years now, but they have always been married fathers. Michael Hulbert, a 29-year-old salesman, is an unmarried father. When his son was aged two, the mother gave an ultimatum: "Either you take him or he is up for adoption."

"A woman gives birth and she automatically has a mother's rights even if she isn't married. But an unmarried father has nothing," he says. "I was treated like a second-class citizen because I am a man."

"The magistrates were incredibly biased and didn't know what to do with me, a single man with a son. I used to get so frustrated I'd end up crying and shouting at the same time."

"Now the boy is 12 and he is all right but there is still a supervision order which means either a probation officer or a social worker comes round every two or three months to check up on us."

One of the Law Commission's proposals is that unmarried fathers should be entitled to apply to the court for some or all parental rights, and that courts should be given increased powers to grant those rights according to the particular relationship.

The fact that a couple have separated does not necessarily mean the estranged one (usually the father) no longer has any interest in his children. Yet if the mother dies he would not be regarded as a member of the family; his children could be taken under the wing of the local authority or put up for adoption without him being consulted. Even if he has always lived with the mother of his children, he could still be forced into complicated legal procedures to gain their custody if the mother died. This is why an unmarried mother is always urged to make a will naming the guardian of her children.

The Conservative MP Keith Best, another supporter of the campaign to end discrimination against illegitimate children and their parents, says: "The Government is not prepared to make parliamentary time available itself but it would back a private member's Bill."

# The wives who lead a spinster's life

I blame Barbara Pym really. Or maybe the guilty woman is Anita Brookner. Between them they seem to have persuaded several women of my acquaintance, who until now have been merely unmarried, to become spinsters.

So my friend Caroline, a television researcher who has been juggling along, far from unhappily, with a series of married lovers who can't marry her and unmarried ones who, she has no wish to marry, having read the Pym diaries, is now determined to Give It All Up. She envisages a life of bliss preparing little snack things to eat on a tray and spending the evening doing whatever is the present-day equivalent of darned little stockings.

She is not alone in hankering after spinsterhood. The Barbican exhibition, "Gwen John: An Interior Life", had to be extended so great was the demand to see paintings of quiet, withdrawn women, pale with lack of expectation. The spinster as heroine has arrived.

One can see the appeal. Anita Brookner's heroines grow taut and tense as they crave attention from men who hardly notice them and it is only when they face up to this reality that they achieve peace and self-acceptance.

To renounce a life of projecting oneself as mere man-bait, frantic with worry about your clothes, your appearance and your ability to cook the ultimate in romantic suppers, must be like taking off a too-tight pair of shoes.

And yet, outside the pages of a novel, true spinsterhood is hard to achieve. The number of Pym-type spinsters, living on small allowances which allow them to dabble in a little voluntary work can be counted on the fingers of one hand.

The Brookner spinster, high-powered at work but socially bereft, becomes an even more unbelievable figure. High-achieving women attract attention, even to the extent of being invited to Booker prize dinners and carrying off the award.

Loneliness, lack of occupation and slender means are hardly the prerogatives of the spinster; they have been inherited by the married woman. It is the housewife who cooks herself modest little meals à la Barbara Pym, while her husband is chopping his way through an expense account lunch. It is she who struggles to look presentable on what remains of her housekeeping allowance. When she is taken out in the evening, she remains unnoticed, designated merely as so-and-so's wife. No wonder she has adopted the withdrawn, rather frightened look of a Gwen John painting.

When she works outside the home, domestic responsibilities force her into the part-time, low-paid jobs that Barbara Pym's unmarried heroines toiled at unawardingly. Single women with no husbands whose companies might send them unexpectedly (plus spouse) to Bahrain, no children who might inconveniently come down with impetigo on a Thursday afternoon, are rewarded for their lack of domestic ties with jobs that, until recently, were thought suitable only for men, married or not.



PENNY PERRICK

It is wives, not spinsters, who feel that restless sense of being alone, so perfectly described by chroniclers of the single state. Everyone supposes them to be well off for company in the bosom of their family, so nobody rings them up and asks them whether they would like to go to the pictures, even though they may be pacing restlessly about the house while their husband snores in front of *Panorama* and their children are absorbed with the home computer.

"Lonely folk have lines of days," wrote Dorothy Parker, who was married twice.

Is this the sort of life that today's unmarried women wish to return to? Do they think that renouncing love affairs and staying home evening after evening, stroking the cat on their lap, is going to help them to live happily ever after?

Single women have tried for so long to emulate the lives of wives, even to the extent of choosing to have a child, with all the attendant problems that single parenthood entails, that real, no-nonsense spinsterhood may seem terribly attractive.

I wonder how Mrs Wearing is faring. She is the mother who last month gave her two grown-up children official notice to quit the family home. Maybe she is now revelling in that strange quietude that descends on a house when children leave it. I hope so. Some of us don't. It is more than a year since my youngest went away to university and I still find the childless life almost unbearable.

But this is the problem that dare not speak its name. Seeing off one's perfectly mature children is supposed to be a relief rather than a sorrow.

One is supposed to revel in the sudden cessation of thumping pop music. One is told to lose no time in turning an erstwhile domiciled child's bedroom into somewhere to watch the television in.

The novelist Nancy Thayer knew better. In her book *Stepping*, she suggested that the day one's child left home was as dramatic as the day it was born and should be treated just as importantly.

Mothers bereft of their children, she said, should be allowed to climb into bed while sympathetic friends brought flowers to the bedside, rubbed their back and held their hand to indicate awareness that a new, important stage of life was about to begin.

## A new dimension to home movies

Funny things happen on Saturday nights down Clarendon Road, London E11. It looks an ordinary sort of street, kind of quiet. Apart from the intermittent rattle of passing trains and the gentle rustle of wind through the trees, you would think it a regular two-up, two-down Victorian street.

But at 8.30pm for the last two weeks, number eight, the most inward-looking house, has become "possessed" in a very strange way. It all starts when the vision of a giant bathtub appears to fill the whole of the top floor, its bulk seen through the front window. The tap through the window. Then a hand enters diagonally (like that of God in some apocalyptic painting) and turns on the tap. Meanwhile, downstairs is filling up with water, and a frogman in

Strange surrealistic effects take place

on Saturday nights in a quiet London suburb.

Sarah Jane Checkland

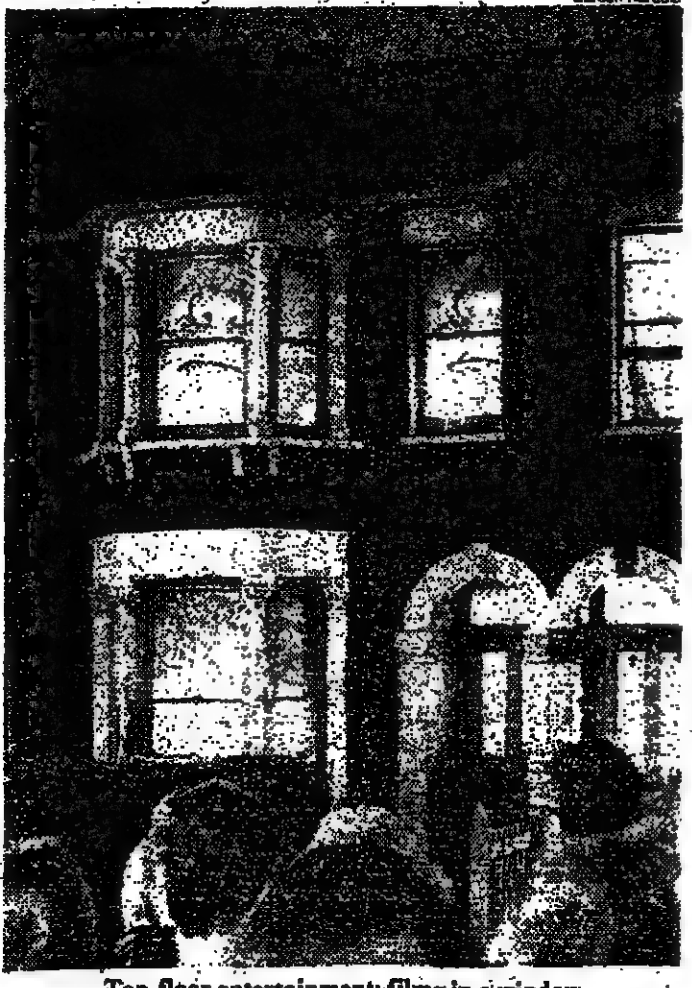
joins the audience on the pavement

A lurid orange wet-suit appears. Smiling and swimming nonchalantly, he waves out from half way down the front window.

To see this phenomenon pedestrians do not have to be under the influence of anything stronger than cocoa. It is a new art form called Housewatch, laid on by six senior artists working in film, and has £1,000 worth of credibility in the form of Arts Council funding. Last Saturday night was the official world debut and the inhabitants of Leyton came to see this suburban drama.

Ian Bourn, one of the artists, explained: "I live in number eight, opposite Chris White, the painter, and we're always watching each other. At a party at his house some time ago, he mentioned he hadn't seen my work, and so on the spur of the moment I said, 'I'll show my films through the window'."

The composite image and added soundtrack provides a combination of performance art and street theatre in a very surrealistic vein. The idea is simple enough: each window is covered with tracing paper, and has its own specific film beamed on to the paper from within the house, via a mirror. The paper acts as a screen through which the images have to penetrate, and the mirror has the purpose of both doubling the distance the image travels and reversing it, so that it appears the right way round on



Top-floor entertainment: films in a window

screen. "It's the first time it's ever been done," says Bourn, who describes with dreamy eyes the multitude of unlikely venues in which he would like to perform.

"Just think, you could project suburban streets on to stately homes; on to entire tower blocks. Anyone who's got a projector could do it. My favourite choice would be a croft in the Orkneys far away from anywhere." He hopes to go on tour performing Housewatch whenever members of the public offer their windows.

crisp-munching children chattered at the front. The family next door even brought their chairs on to the pavement.

Between them the six artists succeeded in creating some extraordinary effects. In a wide variety of moods, the bathtub fantasy developed into a full-colour aquarium, with a combination of genuine tropical fish and a comic toy crab, which made its way laboriously up the front window to stifled laughter from the crowd. Ian Bourn's film, a parody of both romantic fiction and advertisements, combined the images of dancing lovers in the bottom windows with an idyllic scene of sunset on the sea above.

In Alison Winkles' poetic interpretation of an episode in *Jane Eyre*, the house goes up in flames to the sonorous tones of Kathleen Ferrier. "I was really worried the police would come running, thinking it was a riot," says Alison.

On the theme of houses and what people get up to in them, the only film that touches on the nastier side of life is by George Saxon and is called "The House that Jack built". Its ghoulish soundtrack includes lines like "This is the blood that Jack spilt, these are the friends that Jack slayed". The artist plays the role of a vampire, guzzling the contents of a coffin.

The artists know they need to tell the police of displays, but have not yet looked into the legal and social implications of their work. They would not be allowed to cause an obstruction, but what about the risks of passers-by confusing real, with special effects? A real fire could be dismissed as "That Jane Eyre film again", and the voyeur caught prying might claim that he thought he was seeing a film.

For information on "Housewatch" and bookings ring 01-515 7755 or 01-981 5943.

## "GET PEOPLE TALKING!"

Debbie Sowerby



"I fasted last year for many reasons. To draw attention to the suffering in poor countries. To raise money through sponsorship. To get some idea how it feels to go without."

"But the thing I hadn't counted on was the effect my fast had on my friends and family. We talked and talked about it all weekend."

"That's why I am fasting again this year - to get people talking!"

World Hunger. Everyone knows we need change - a change to give hope to the hungry and a change in the attitudes of governments towards them.

Last year's experience of fasting for one day allowed people to understand a little better the appalling fate of the 750 million people who suffer hunger every day without choice.

At the same time, through sponsorship, they raised valuable funds for Oxfam development projects overseas.

It is our intention that this year's fast should represent a massive expression of concern - of a nation hungry for change.

Time is running out. Please join us. Fill in the coupon for details without delay.

Debbie Sowerby is a Hungry for Change supporter in Reading. She is joining with thousands of others in a 24 hour fast during the weekend of November 15, 16 and 17 in Oxfam's second Hungry for Change FAST. The past 12 months have shown how much people in this country care about

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☐ I'll fast. Please forward my name to my nearest Oxfam organiser.  
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**SIGN UP NOW!**

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## THE TIMES DIARY

### Happier return

Graham Coveyduck, the Hampshire businessman held in a cockroach-infested Nigerian prison cell for nearly a year, tells me he hopes to return to Lagos by Christmas to restart his company. Coveyduck got back to Britain in September, having lost seven stone in weight, to find that his wife had sold his Jaguar and paid off the chauffeur. In addition to the Nigerian business - a financial consultancy specializing in chasing debts and investigating corruption - he will also launch in nearby Gambia what he calls a "cheapo flying exercise": flying pilgrims to Mecca and tropical fruit to Europe. "Even in West Africa there are enormous opportunities for people prepared to work," he says. Imprisoned by the now toppled Buhari regime for exposing corruption in the circle of the former security chief, Mohammed Lawal Rafindadi, he has at least one good reason to feel bullish about his return. "Rafindadi is now in the same prison block as I was," he says.

### Feeling the pulse

If ever a politician stands or falls on his record it is Barney Hayhoe, the new health minister. The Labour Party in his Brentford constituency, where he has a majority of 9,387, has just chosen Ann Keen, a nursing tutor who works for the local health authority, to oppose him in the general election. The SDP is pulling up Michael Wilks, a general practitioner.

### Skin people

One competition that Booker victor Keri Hulme will not be winning is the Betty Trask award for new romantic fiction. Experimental works were strictly barred by the late Miss Trask. But what will win? An impressive list of judges just leaked to me includes the names of A. S. Byatt, whose latest novel was intended to be written "innocently... without metaphors", critic Nicholas Bagnall, who this year published *A Device of Chances*, and former Mills and Boon and *Spare Rib* writer Sally Beauman, whose new gut-buster has been sold for a million dollars. In any contest, I would bet on a pretentious, cliché-ridden saga. About sex.

### Parents' day

You've heard of maternity leave, even paternity leave. But now, insemination leave. Employees of the left-wing *City Limits* magazine have just been told that while mothers get 26 weeks paid maternity leave, "fathers, adoptive, gay or artificial insemination" parents will get 20 weeks. It can no longer defend giving "secondary" parents only a few weeks' leave. "Also we did not want to restrict it only to fathers, and felt it should include something that rendered sexual orientation, or the lack of a biological connection, irrelevant."

BARRY FANTONI



"The entrance fee is voluntary but it costs a couple of quid to get out."

### Pedestrian

If you have really nothing else to worry about, try getting worked up over this. The Pedestrians Association for Road Safety (vice-president Michael Foot) is protesting to the BBC and IBA about television's habit of interviewing people as they are driving. The BBC has politely replied that the technique is probably rather less risky than having a car full of children. So did the association's secretary, Fick Rac, actually know of any accidents caused by the practice? Well, um, actually no, she didn't.

Two years after Cecil Parkinson's resignation, 22 months after baby Flora's birth, and a month after the *Mirror* serialization, Sara Key's *A Question of Judgment* is published tomorrow. Fireworks Day. Will it cause any? Let's put it this way: the book's distributor is a Mr Squibb.

### Slowcoach

At the very same Brussels conference on car manufacturing in which the Ford chief bemoaned Britain's slow workers, Tory industry spokesman Ben Patterson was complaining about its slow paperwork. The paperwork, that is, involved in his purchase of a Renault 55 GTX in Strasbourg in February and its return to British shores. Unproductive? You could say I was being very community-minded in buying a French model," he said. "It's a state of the art car. Next time I may go back to a Rover."

PHS

# Can Fowler sell his package?

Nicholas Timmins on the doubts still surrounding key aspects of social security reform

Secretary, Norman Fowler, and the government will still face flak across the political spectrum for the decision.

Already the government's supporters on the radical right are accusing it of losing its nerve. Sir John Hoskyns, director-general of the Institute of Directors, has said that failing to abolish Serps would be "a major admission of defeat".

On the left, Labour will be quick to point out that whatever modifications are chosen, the effect, at least in the short term, will be that people will still pay the same National Insurance contributions, but for smaller benefits.

In the centre, the Alliance is poised for a double attack on the government - proposing modifications to Serps that would do more for the low-paid, and arguing that the alternative is to get rid of Serps now, and invest in a big rise of up to a quarter in the basic pension.

Elsewhere, it is clear that political considerations other than a desire to improve the running of social security are dictating the government's stance.

The plan to make even the poorest on income support pay 20 per cent of their rates has attracted much criticism, but looks set to stay. The fact that it will make housing benefit much more complex and expensive to administer, and is likely to deprive some claimants in high rate areas from which they have no prospect of escaping, is ignored.

For the argument here is not about social security, but local accountability. Mrs Thatcher, unable now to reform rates in this parliament, believes that if claimants are no longer insulated from the effects of rate rises by having all their rates paid, they will cease to vote for high-spending (and often Labour) councils.

It is the one surviving gesture of the government towards rate reform, despite its adverse effects on the smooth running of social security.

On the other side of the housing benefit debate, pressure from Tory back-benchers may well lead the government to go back on part of its plan to simplify the income-related help given with rent and rates. For the effect, as the proposal stands, would be heavy cuts in the help with

rates given to home-owning pensioners - a natural Conservative constituency.

On much else the government seems determined to push ahead. Changes such as the new family credit, paid through the pay packet, and cuts in benefits for those aged under 25, are inspired by motives other than improving the system.

Both are about encouraging people to take low-paid jobs - the first appears to increase the family man's take-home pay, and the second makes life on the dole still more unpleasant. Cuts for the young unemployed are also dictated by the need to free some money to improve rates for others in a nil-cost reform. But if the government is clinging to the structure of its plans, it has a long way to go before they are actually implemented.

The argument over gainers and losers is yet to come. Some figures are promised in the white paper. If they are full enough to give a real picture of the proposals' impact, the complaints on behalf of the numerous losers will be loud. If they are not sufficiently full, the government will be accused, as it was in the summer, of disguising its intentions. Fowler's powers of salesmanship have still to be put to the test.

The author is social services correspondent of The Times.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

## Where living the faith is now a crime



Paula Youens

In addition, Dr Zeligchenok was pressed to give evidence against two other Jews, on trial in Sverdlovsk, about whom he remembered nothing. (He refused.) Furthermore, the almost blind Gailna Zeligchenok, who cannot fend for herself, has been dismissed from her job with the Gorky Blind Institute, and her telephone - her only lifeline now that her husband is in the concentration camp - has been cut off.

More remarkable in some ways than these two cases is that of Vladimir Brodsky, an anaesthesiologist, who has told his own life story, in a document of which I have an English translation: his family history epitomizes the fate of European Jewry in this century. Many of his relatives were victims of Stalin's holocaust; many more were murdered during the Second World War by the Nazis; right up to the "Doctors' Plot" members of the Brodsky family were falling beneath the Soviet pogrom's sickle - his uncle, survived the concentration camp to which he was sent at that time, but his aunt perished after being charged with injecting patients with cancer.

Vladimir Brodsky himself also learned directly about Soviet anti-Semitism: he was repeatedly beaten up at school because he was a "Zhid" ("Until I was 14," he writes, "I always walked around covered with scars") and when, as a university student at the time of the Six Day War he and his fellow Jews

came together in self-protection, it was only because he felt ill and had to spend some time in hospital that he was the only Jewish student not to be expelled.

Despite this, and a good deal more, he began to be interested in the Jewish religion and Jewish culture, and later he came to think of emigration.

By then he was working in a hospital, where he was visited by the KGB, who told him they would help him to get out if he would spy on his fellow Jews for them. His refusal led to threats and, of course, to his being unable to obtain an exit visa.

At the time of the Moscow Olympiad, he and two friends went on hunger strike, after which he was called before the head physician of his hospital, who said he had been accused of stealing drugs and suggested he should resign to avoid prosecution. He replied that he would welcome prosecution on this false charge, so that he could proclaim in court that he was being prosecuted for being a Jew who wished to emigrate, and he followed this up with a letter to the office of the procurator (director of prosecutions), declaring that he was being blackmailed into giving up his job by these threats, and requesting the procurator to look into it. ("The most disgusting part of it," he writes, "was that my direct superior, a Jew, was the most active of all the participants in this campaign. I somehow felt ashamed for him.")

## From China: porn, platitudes and pluck

Chinese tradition of *Huawu* or pornographic writing, notable for its allusion and euphemism. The entry by "Ye Tsao" was a straightforward dirt book.

Of greater interest is *China Betwixt Life and Death* by the 26-year-old Li Pao-chien, a medical school teacher. Tricked out with authentic-sounding neurological and surgical jargon, this fantasy descends from the Chinese literature of magic and horror. A brilliant foreign-trained psychiatrist, with mad German wife and doctor, his twin daughters are potentially insane as well. After a series of experiments with animals he slowly begins adjusting the brains of the young women. Very gothic, it is little too long.

Zhou Zhiyuan, an art teacher, and Zeng Xuemai, an English teacher, wrote *The Matriarch* "to prove we can express ourselves in English". Their English is structurally sound, but weak in idiom and vocabulary, bearing the marks of much thumbing through Roget and an underfurnished reading of Dickens, Shakespeare, Hemingway, and *Condensed Great English Words for Foreign Readers*.

The two have produced just what the party always likes, a mixture of abuse of the Bad Past and praise of the Good Present. The hero comes to understand which is which

without any doubt in the final pages. A young painter has been exiled to the countryside during the Cultural Revolution. Bad. There he meets peasant wisdom and kindness. Good. He experiences pure love and devotion from a peasant girl. Good. She dies. Bad.

Back in Peking he develops his art. Good, but suffers from alienation. Bad. He has a sort-of affair with another artist. Not so good, but they don't do anything. He is pushed about by the bad during the Spiritual Pollution Campaign. Bad, but is forgiven. Good. He returns to live in the countryside among the wise old peasants. Excellent.

*Ghost Figure* by a 30-year-old engineer, Chao Yungai, is the least stereotyped, and by far the most complex of the novels. If another literary purge rolls around, Chao will be in red-hot water. The central figure is a very clever and imaginative little boy, Chih-hua, living in Peking in the years up to and including the Cultural Revolution. His is a poor semi-literate, hard-working father, whose simple pleasures are periodically interrupted by successive political upheavals, resulting in famine, beatings, hatred and fear, closely observed by the inquisitive boy.

There is no liberation here, only a succession of petty officials and local

bullies who make the most of their fragments of power until the next convulsion sweeps them away and others take their place. But what is unusual about Chao's novel is the reaction of the little boy to some of the party's most cherished myths.

He asks his mother about beggars, landlords, and orphans who, it seems to him, must have made up most of the population of China before the Communists. An illiterate self-sacrificing woman, the paradigm mother gives all the wrong answers. Beggars were beggars because they were lazy, she remembers, and they gambled and used opium. She never encountered a cruel landlord. Indeed, some were very kind. As for orphans, "I envied their lives. They lived together friendly and the elder looked after the younger. There was no family dispute and no solitude."

The point here is not that Chih-hua's mother is "right", but that such lines should be placed in the mouth of a good person. If there were a Nobel Prize for literary courage, Chao Yungai would not disgrace the shortlist.

The entries for this year's competition - to be judged by a panel including the novelist John Fowles - can be obtained from the publicity department, Jonathan Cape, 32 Bedford Square, London, WC1 (01-636 3344).

Anne Sofer

## Not so nutty — it makes sense

There has been an outbreak of vegetarianism in our family. Asking around, I find the phenomenon is reaching epidemic proportions, and I am not surprised that the least Promotional Executive is mounting a campaign. If north London is anything to go by, butchers will soon be an endangered species.

The ideology behind vegetarianism is a whole new world to those who have never given the matter a moment's thought. I have found it both a puzzle and an escape. Suddenly one needs no longer worry about privatization versus direct labour, or tertiary colleges as opposed to all-through comprehensive schools. The camera travels at the speed of light backwards from the human predicament, and man becomes a small and mischievous creature on a wider screen. As the cares of the day drop away, the evening meal presents a new sort of moral and intellectual challenge.

There are many different kinds of vegetarian. Since it is in most cases an individual moral decision, every individual draws the line in a different place. I have not yet met a fruitarian (the sort that believes no food must be eaten whose harvesting involves the premature death of the plant), but there are plenty of vegans around. Vegans eschew dairy produce as well as meat, on the grounds that dairy farming is part and parcel of the meat industry and involves the abuse of young animals. In particular it destroys the relationship between mother and young which is a bond that we, as fellow mammals, should not break.

Some vegetarians will eat fish. These are members of what one might call the Mammalian Solidarity movement. They feel strongly about the brutality of the dairy industry, but fish are far enough away from ourselves in the evolutionary chain to command no such fellow feeling. Logically, I argued to an adherent of this philosophy, he should feel able to eat chicken as well. But he showed me an article about factory farming that has put me off buying chicken or non-free range eggs ever since.

Most vegetarians, however, regard the taking of life as the cardinal sin and will eat dairy produce (though perhaps only from farms that set themselves up as a model of humane - if that is the word - practice) but not fish. You can imagine the complications of catering as I do for both sets of beliefs at the same meal: anchovies on one side of the pizza, mozzarella cheese on the other.

Indeed, sometimes I suspect the whole caper is designed to give the cook the run-around. Or - another theory I have developed in less petulant moments about my own children and the thousands of other assimilated Jews, half-Jews and quarter Jews in this part of London - that it is an aversive longing for the strict dietary laws which their ancestors lived by for most of the last 25 centuries. But on analysis neither explanation holds up. There are plenty of gentle vegetarians, and on the whole one of the benefits of the new dispensation is the extent to which all these young people are

cooking for themselves. Packets of strange pulses appear on the kitchen shelves and peaceable casseroles bubble away on the back of the stove.

It is in fact all enormously seductive. One of the great appeals of vegetarianism is that it does seem - to use an appallingly inapt metaphor - to kill so many birds with one stone. "What can I do," asks the troubled soul of the late 20th century, "to help the Third World (by making available cereals now fed to cattle and pigs), stop cruelty to animals, improve my own chances of a long and happy life, and cut my cost of living?" And the answer comes with all the appeal of any Four-for-the-Price-of-One offer: stop eating meat! All those bowls of mussels and chick-pea stew and high fibre macaroni will lift the spirit as they exercise the jaw muscles.

But I laugh - as I am sure anyone with an ounce of insight can tell - defensively. There is in fact no defence. I recall as a child overhearing an adult conversation in which someone who had just been to India was describing the huge banner that had greeted the arrival of the British visitors at the airport. "Be Kind to Animals by Not Eating Them," it said. The group of grown-ups roared with laughter at the story. The very idea that being kind to animals (which was of course a strong and commendable British tradition) should actually lead to vegetarianism! It was clearly seen as an example of the over-literateness of a childlike native people. In fact, the logic is inescapable.

We have seen the rise and fall of vegetarian fads before, but never, I think, one as strong as the current trend. This is partly because it has coincided with ever stronger nutritional advice about the damage caused by the present high levels of animal fat in the British diet. We are also in an era when anything to do with food produces a huge amount of alluring published material. Food photography - something, I am sure, in which you can now get a degree - is so skilled that glossy pictures of piles of nuts and raisins look like a gourmet's paradise. I am staggered by the numbers of cookbooks, magazines and specialist shops catering for vegetarians.

Over the decades, perhaps, meat eating will diminish and eventually disappear. People will look back on the carnivorous past of their species and shudder with moral superiority, as we do when we consider how our ancestors treated women and slaves. Small groups of depraved recidivists will meet in secret, for illegal barbecues, as they do now for cock-fights. We will be at peace with the animal world, if not - yet - with ourselves. But then, of course, a host of other moral questions will present themselves. What should we do with our carnivorous pets? How to reconcile the lion and the lamb?

Meanwhile I have a freezer full of meat, laid in before the new regime, and a reluctance - based on habit as much as good housekeeping - to take the oath at present. My attitude is perhaps best described by St Augustine: "Lord, make me a vegetarian, but not yet."

moreover... Miles Kington

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## TESTING THE WATER

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, is in Moscow to test the water for the Geneva summit later this month. November is normally a chilly month in Moscow, with Red Square reverberating to motorized missiles and slogans shouted to encourage national liberation. But now an unseasonable thaw despite events in Kabul has brought a welcome new competition between Moscow and Washington with both sides proposing deep cuts in their excessive weapons stock.

Soviet negotiators have agreed to extend the Geneva arms control talks until Thursday to discuss the latest American offers. There is even some movement over the vexed problem of human rights, with reports that Dr Sakharov's wife, Mrs Yelena Bonner, has received permission to travel abroad for medical attention, albeit not until after the summit.

Of course the Soviet and American offers have a propaganda purpose, released as they were only weeks before the summit. Yet they go beyond mere posturing, and underline the benefits which would accrue from holding an annual high level meeting to discuss reducing tension. The public relations exercise of wishing to appear reasonable and ready to make concessions can, in fact, lead to genuine agreements of value to all.

The proposals originally tabled at Geneva by the American side brought little response from Soviet negotiators until with the approach of the summit the foreign minister Mr Shevardnadze produced a counter-proposal at the White House discussions last September. Although President Reagan declared that the Gorbachov offer of 50 per cent cuts in nuclear arsenals was neither equitable nor properly verifiable, he repeated on Saturday that it contained "certain positive themes" which he intends to nurture with his latest proposals including bans on mobile missiles and limits on submarine-launched missiles to reduce first-strike capabilities.

Moscow's immediate reaction has been negative. Tass is accusing Mr Reagan of trying to limit large land-based missiles in which the USSR is more powerful, while excluding strategic bombers, medium-range systems and of course the Strategic Defence Initiative which Moscow is determined to block. Indeed the US proposal to ban all mobile missiles is hotly opposed also by some Washington arms experts, who believe that the Midgetman project is needed as a hedge against threats

to the US submarine force. And the Soviet offer to negotiate on the controversial Krasnoyarsk radar installation is unacceptable to Nato as it stands.

It is unfortunately the case that the differences between East and West remain too great for these latest movements to be more than optimistic indications that there is some hope of future progress. Significantly the Dutch government has decided to accept American medium-range missiles, despite strong Soviet protests, because Moscow has refused to limit the total number of SS-20 missiles. For all Mr Gorbachov's offers, the USSR appears committed to a foreign policy fundamentally hostile to the West. President Reagan's proposal to exchange scientists and allow visits to strategic defence research facilities is unlikely to prove acceptable to the USSR with its mania for secrecy.

Because of the Moscow talks Mr Shultz withdrew from making the opening speech to more than 2,000 leading Western, Japanese and Chinese scholars, now gathered in Washington for the Third World Congress for Soviet and East European Studies. His deputy, Mr John Whitehead, spoke of the "impenetrable enigma" of Soviet policies but added that the US administration remained optimistic about making progress in the four areas of arms control, regional disputes, trade and human rights. Insofar as there can be a consensus of opinion at an academic congress with hundreds of presentations and days of discussion, it was that Mr Gorbachov is energetically wielding a new broom, but that major reforms or changes of policy will come only slowly, if at all.

The basic aims and message of the Soviet leadership have not changed with the renewal of summits, and attempts to manipulate Western public opinion are clearly continuing. The Sakharov case is the best known of thousands of similar examples in which individual rights are subordinated to strange perceptions of the needs of the state. Russian reaction to the latest incident in Kabul is in itself significant.

Concessions are required from both sides to fulfil the hopes raised by the forthcoming meeting. In arms control and regional issues, Mr Reagan should show himself to the flexible in order to achieve a genuine reduction in tension, but he is right to emphasize that there can be no compromise on the principles of individual rights, on which Western democracy is based.

## A HUNGARIAN RHAPSODY

The first visit to Britain by the Hungarian leader, Mr Janos Kadar, has attracted much less sensational publicity than Mrs Thatcher's first visit to Hungary did early last year. Yet this lack of publicity should not obscure the fact that Anglo-Hungarian relations are in excellent shape: a fact reflected by what Mr Kadar himself described as the "good atmosphere of his talks with Mrs Thatcher". Indeed, it is hard to think of a time when Anglo-Hungarian relations have been in better shape.

What is the value for Britain in developing these relatively intense relations with a small state in East Central Europe? The direct benefit in foreign policy terms is marginal. Last year it seemed for a time that Hungary, together with East Germany, was attempting to achieve a slightly higher profile in East-West relations. It was the Hungarian officials who enunciated what might be called the "small states doctrine": the idea that the smaller states in Europe have a special role to play in advancing the East-West dialogue, particularly at a time when the two super-powers were not talking to each other. With hindsight, we can see that this was an exceptional moment, born of the confusion surrounding the succession crisis in Moscow and the deep frost in Soviet-American relations. With the new strong leader in the Kremlin shaping up for a Soviet-American summit, the individual part which can be played by the smaller states of the Warsaw Pact inevitably shrinks back to its usual size, which is very small indeed. In all points of substance, Mr Kadar has not deviated one inch from the common Warsaw Pact position and it is obviously quite unrealistic to expect him to do so in future. Nor is it very helpful to regard an East European leader like Mr Kadar as "a route to Moscow". Mr Kadar will certainly benefit personally from hearing the Nato position explained, as it were, from the horse's mouth. But he is hardly

## Pocketing benefits of black economy

From the Bishop of Liverpool and others

Sir, Sir Michael Edwards has given an estimate of the number of people engaged in the "black economy" (report, November 1). He is persuaded by this that the numbers of those genuinely unemployed is 1.5 million. He adds that his figures are "purely intuitive".

He has assumed that whatever number may be calculated to be "moonlighting" (his word) includes a high proportion of unemployed people. He claims that the moonlighting is not just small earnings, but includes sophisticated high technology at home, earning substantial sums.

There is a crucial point. To earn large amounts in the informal economy, you need to have your own tools, or a van, or technology at home. The vast majority of unemployed people cannot afford such personal resources.

Does Sir Michael see his intuitive figure against the Economist Intelligence Unit Report of a national survey of unemployed people which showed that 4 per cent of the unemployed were engaged in the informal economy profitably?

On more than one occasion your leading articles on this page have implied that we all know the ill effects of unemployment are tempered by involvements in the informal economy. Such evidence as there is (such as Professor R. E. Pahl in *Divisions of Labour*) strongly suggests that, where there are substantial earnings in the informal economy, they are being made by those in employment, who are indeed moonlighting.

One may well ask how many of those who criticise the unemployed would themselves be willing to keep searching eagerly and expectantly for jobs when their efforts have failed perhaps fifty times or more. The Government term for this category is "discouraged workers". That is an honest understatement which resists the temptation to smear the great majority of the unemployed.

† DAVID LIVERPOOL,  
JOHN WILLIAMSON,  
† DEREK WORLOCK,  
Church House,  
1 Hanover Street,  
Liverpool,  
November 1.

## S Africa and sanctions

From Mr Michael Smallman

Sir, Let me give you, and Professor Flew (October 29), one clear-cut criterion for regarding the South African version of apartheid as unique.

Under that system there is nothing a black African can do to "conform", i.e. he cannot change his colour. In other questionable societies, say Northern Ireland or the USSR, "dissidents" (such as myself, here) can at least conform by suspending the symptoms of dissidence.

The lack of voice suffered by me in political terms is nothing, therefore, to that suffered by a black inhabitant of South Africa: besides, he is a member of a majority, while I am not (except in Botha's perverse terms).

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL SMALLMAN,  
30 Malone Heights,  
Belfast,  
October 29.

## PR at Strasbourg

From Mrs Lesley Abdela

Sir, Your eminent correspondent, the MEP for Dorset East and Hampshire West (October 26), must not be allowed to obfuscate the growing interest in the representative value of proportional representation. He rushes in with the canard that PR means only the "list system" whereby party leaders compose a list of candidates in descending order. If the party gets, say, 40 per cent of the national vote, so many names down that list get into the Parliament.

Of course this gives unacceptable power to the party leadership and could not be condoned as a system in Britain.

What the Alliance urges is the ultra-fair system of first/second/third (etc) preference in multi-member constituencies. This would give no more power or influence to party leaders than they presently have, yet it would ensure the most democratic (and readily understood) way of electing the nation's representatives.

Sincerely yours,  
LESLEY ABDELA,  
Harper's Marsh,  
King's Saltern Road,  
Lymington,  
Hampshire,  
October 28.

## Cross-Channel link

From Mr Brendan Sewill

Sir, One aspect of the Channel Tunnel or bridge that you do not mention in your leading article (November 1) is that it may add to the centrepiece economic forces that are already apparent. In any economic system there is a tendency for firms to coagulate at the centre of secure lower transport costs.

Once this process begins it tends to grow as firms achieve economies of scale and benefit from proximity to other industrial, professional and leisure facilities. As activity increases so secondary employment - house building, schools, shops - is created. The nation as a whole gets richer but, as the centre grows, the extremities decline.

One has seen this in Scotland since the Act of Union. There have been plenty of good jobs for the Scots in England - look for example

## US lessons for Britain's inner cities

From Professor John Bohstedt

Sir, Riots are the politics of the excluded. The current conventional wisdom about unemployment and the police does not go deeply enough to get at the sources of Britain's inner-city riots. Until the communities from which riots spring have gained political recognition and representation, riots will continue. The best evidence for this proposition is the American experience of the last twenty years.

In eighteenth-century bread riots and nineteenth-century and twentieth-century industrial clashes and battles for the vote by the middle-class and working-class men and by women, rioters have used force as political leverage when they were excluded from the routine processes of power.

So far from being mindless hooliganism, these riots were usually intelligible, often successful, direct actions against relevant targets by ordinary people expressing community grievances. Local authorities, unable to comprehend their neighbours' uprising, have always cried "outside agitators", but have almost never produced one in court.

Unemployment doubtless aggravates inner-city frustrations, but such hard evidence as there is indicates that both American and British rioters have come about equally from the ranks of the employed and the unemployed. In the eighties, as in the thirties, unemployment has been more likely to demoralize and demobilize than to galvanize people to action.

The police have been the triggers and targets of riots because they are the face of an alien power structure.

## Manning the legal barricades

From Mr Michael Astbury

Sir, The Bar must pause and reflect before manning the barricades as you suggest (leader, October 30). In each case is not the same, but each is complementary to the other and has a vital part to play. The faculty of adversarial attitudes must surely be apparent.

I hope my affection for, and commitment to the Bar is not in issue. I write on my own account, though having served as Deputy Secretary of the Bar for many years until 1977 and as Chairman of the Bar Association for Commerce, Finance and Industry in 1983/84.

I question whether outright rejection of the Law Society's claim is in the interest of the Bar. The Bar at 5,200 is already substantially over-subscribed and is not served by seeking to retain what brings little credit to the Bar and is inadequately remunerated. I do not see a Bar much in excess of 2,500 offering outstanding specialist opinion and advocacy. This is the real work of the Bar, for which it remains the undisputed champion. This need not be sacrificed by a common educational policy, nor the sharing of professional work and experience with our solicitor colleagues in early years.

The opportunity to opt for the Bar in later years could likewise be shared by all concerned, and it is possible that the Bar, and the judiciary in due course, might gain thereby.

Solicitors and barristers have much to offer and to share, and

## VAT brake on art

From Mr Rees Martin

Sir, A major Picasso exhibition was recently cancelled as the gallery concerned was unable to place a £1.5 million deposit with HM Customs & Excise.

At present, customs regulations require the immediate payment of VAT on imported contemporary works of art. Although this can be deferred for up to six weeks under the VAT deferral scheme, either way, the funds have to be produced even if the works are not for sale or are to be re-exported. Although it can be ultimately reclaimed, initially the money must either be produced in cash, draft or through the above scheme.

There are certain exceptions, but the legislation covers virtually all types of exhibition. The majority of galleries funded by the Arts Council

and certainly all commercial galleries have to provide such funds from their own sources.

This all-embracing and punitive law has had two effects: firstly, only the wealthiest museums and galleries are able to import major contemporary works of art for exhibition, and secondly, the less well endowed opt either for a policy of excluding all exhibitions or restrict their selection to the "less expensive", thus severely curtailing the number of foreign exhibitions coming to this country.

Art sales in this country produce considerable VAT revenue and the market has long accepted the tax as a necessary evil. But to demand the whole amount before the possibility of a sale is unreasonable, restrictive and counter-productive.

Yours faithfully,  
REES MARTIN,  
43 Lansdowne Gardens, SW8,  
October 21.

## Glory of the VC

From Mr Stanley J. Blenkinsop

Sir, Like so many people, your correspondent, Lord Olivier (November 1), is incorrect in thinking that the Victoria Cross is made of copper. Indeed, the first proof of the medal was of copper, but Queen Victoria herself thought the metal "ugly" and insisted it "would wear very ill and would soon look like an old penny". Her Majesty added that "it will look very heavy on a red coat".

The Queen then accepted a suggestion that the cross be made of bronze and it was felt appropriate that the metal should come from Russian cannon captured in the Crimea.

Two 18-pounders at Woolwich Barracks were selected. But recent research indicates that the cannon used were more probably of Chinese than Russian origin - and almost certainly never saw service in the Crimea at all, having preceded that campaign by at least a century.

Yours sincerely,  
STANLEY J. BLENKINSOP,  
Wingrove,  
57 Macclesfield Road,  
Wilmslow,  
Cheshire,  
November 3.

## Price of renewal in old Bucharest

From Mr Sherban Cantacuzino

Sir, Your reporter in Bucharest (overseas news, October 30), describing the pitiable state to which Romanians have been reduced as a result of Mr Ceausescu's determination to pay off his country's foreign debt, fails to mention the comprehensive redevelopment in Bucharest and other towns which is causing the widespread destruction of monuments and entire historic quarters.

While Romania's industrialization under Mr Ceausescu can be held out as a way of increasing exports, urban renewal on this scale can only be achieved at great financial cost, let alone the immeasurable costs in social and environmental terms.

In Bucharest a whole quarter of 19th century houses in Neo-classical style has been demolished to enable Mr Ceausescu to create the first communist city of Romania, a grandiose project which includes the construction of an office-lined boulevard which will have at one end the principal party and government buildings arranged around a square large enough to contain 500,000 people and, at the other end, another vast square with a monument to the "Victory of Socialism".

In the demolition went also at least six 16th and 18th century churches of late Byzantine style and two complete monasteries, one of which is to make way for a hotel and the other, the early 18th century complex of Vacaresti outside the city, for a new palace of justice.

The next in line for "renewal" are the medieval walled towns of Transylvania, of which Brasov, Sibiu and Sighisoara are perhaps the most precious and best preserved.

Since communist governments do not allow opposition but are by no means impervious to criticism from abroad, I ask you, Sir, to publicise these destructive policies which are even now sadly diminishing the architectural heritage not only of Romania but of Europe as a whole. Yours faithfully,  
SHERBAN CANTACUZINO,  
11 Pembroke Studios,  
Pembroke Gardens, W8,  
October 30.

## A return to the fold

From Prebendary M. J. Moreton

Sir, Sir James Cobban, in his letter to you today (October 25), says that he would "not wish to belong to a church which was never willing to do anything for the first time", citing this principle in connection with the adoption of marriage for the clergy in the Church of England in the sixteenth century, and the introduction of a vernacular liturgy.

In neither case, however, was the Church of England acting "for the first time". The Eastern Church has always had a married clergy, while it was only gradually that the Western Church extended a monastic discipline in regard to marriage to the secular clergy. Similarly in the East vernacular liturgies, as also the scriptures in the vernacular, were introduced at an early date.

At an early date, too, Latin was introduced as the vernacular of the West. The opportunity to update the language of the Roman rite was missed at the Council of Trent. The Church of England in the sixteenth century, therefore, in adopting marriage for the clergy and a vernacular liturgy was not doing something "for the first time".

Sir James's tendentious principle was, I believe, first enunciated by the Lambeth Conference of 1968 in order to justify what previous Lambeth conferences had steadily refused, namely, the ordination of women. In the protracted debates subsequently on this question no single precedent has been adduced from the history of the Church for the ordination of a woman by a rite for the ordination of a deacon, priest or bishop.

Sir James may be gratified to belong to a church which now proposes to do something which has never been done before. But for some others of us the ordination of women marks a departure from an unbroken tradition which, for all its plausibility, seems to be fraught with hidden, extensive and grave consequences.

Yours faithfully,  
M. J. MORETON,  
University of Exeter,  
Department of Theology,  
Queen's Building,  
The Queen's Drive,  
Exeter, Devon.

## Stately homes in peril

From Mr Alan Morris

Sir, The Treasure Houses of Britain exhibition now opening in Washington must surely be one of the finest advertisements for tourism in this country that has ever been staged.

Those responsible can feel justifiably proud, and deserve all our thanks for this splendid boost to our largest foreign currency earner.

However it is well to look to the future. If the burden of capital transfer tax is not lifted from family property, the country houses and estates will all disappear from private hands, as succeeding owners find it impossible to find the millions that inflated property prices bring in liability. Assets such as these bring in little income, and cannot be moved abroad.

Before the election which brought Mrs Thatcher to the office of Prime Minister for the first time, she promised to draw the teeth of capital transfer tax. This undertaking has been a long time in the deliverance.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN MORRIS,  
Pippingford Park,  
Nulley,  
Sussex,  
October 29.

## ON THIS DAY

NOVEMBER 4 1930

Our Special Correspondent was Evelyn Waugh (1903-66). At the same time he was also filing despatches for the Daily Express. Of the assignment Waugh later wrote that "distant editors were demanding stories of barbaric splendour".

## EMPEROR OF ETHIOPIA

### THE CORONATION CEREMONY

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT)  
ADDIS ABABA, Nov. 2

The Coronation of the Emperor of Ethiopia this morning, although a spectacle of extreme splendour, proved something of an ordeal to some of those concerned. Distinguished visitors, accustomed to a milder habit of life, found themselves obliged to rise at 5.30 a.m. and dress in full uniform. Long before dawn the streets were thronged by a vast concourse of people arriving on foot or on mules from the outlying districts. Many of the Chiefs were paying their first visit to Addis Ababa, as they showed by their consternation at the sight of motor-cars.

The Emperor and Empress had spent a night of vigil in the Cathedral of St. George. Like all Abyssinian churches, this is an octagonal structure with an inner sanctuary, where the Emperor and the Archbishops remained. The service was of extreme liturgical interest, and was conducted throughout the night until 7.50 this morning amid continuous chanting, beating of drums, and the brandishing of brass rattles. The priests danced, swaying their bodies and clapping their hands.

The Coronation took place in a temporary tent to the east of the Cathedral. The foreign missions and the high Abyssinian dignitaries began to arrive at 7 o'clock. Half the church was taken up with a carpeted dais, in the centre of which were two thrones, with silk canopies, facing a covered altar bearing a large cross. The priests sat behind. On either side of the dais facing inwards were rows of chairs, on the left for the Ethiopian notables and on the right for the foreign missions, among which was that headed by the Duke of Gloucester, representing King George.

Behind the thrones were seats for European and American visitors, the wives of diplomats, and lower Ethiopian officials. The costumes and ornaments of the Ethiopians were of the utmost magnificence - brilliant underskirts, coronets, jewelled swords, huge head-dresses of gold braid, jewels and lions' manes. The unofficial Europeans were dressed in some morning and some in evening clothes. An interesting note was struck by an American woman who wore a tweed suit and a toque decorated with a small star-spangled banner. Few Ethiopian women were present. They wore heavy cloaks and large veiled hats.

### CROWNING THE EMPEROR

The Emperor entered at 7.45, and was conducted by the Rases to the Throne. He wore a white and silver cloak, and was followed at intervals by Bishops and Deacons of the Abyssinian Church. The Abuna entered singing, accompanied by cymbals and triangles, and followed by about 80 ecclesiastics. The service proceeded until 8.45, when the Emperor was invested with the crimson robes of State. At intervals during the next hour he received the orb, spears, sword, and other emblems of majesty, and finally he was crowned with a magnificent golden crown of Abyssinian workmanship, studded with emeralds and rubies. There was an outburst of acclamation, which was taken up by the populace outside, a salute was fired from the forts, and the band of H.M.S. Effingham played the Ethiopian National Anthem.

After the solemn investiture and crowning of the Emperor, the Emperor, Rases and Ministers paid their homage. The Coronation ceremony was followed by a further ceremony in the Cathedral, and at its close the Emperor proceeded to a stand, where he read a Royal Proclamation, in which he assured his people that he would work for the prosperity and happiness of the country....

## Prince and the Press

From Mr Clifford A. Sadler

Sir, Michael Leasman comments today (October 31) about your article on off-the-record observations of the Prince of Wales.

According to Walter Bagehot it is the duty of the Monarch "to be consulted, to encourage and (occasionally) to warn".

In order to fulfil this traditional function it is responsible for the higher echelons of royalty to be well-informed on constitutional and political issues as possible. It would make sense to consult informal advisers and even to exchange views with the Press without entering the political arena.

If the Press and others drag these consultations into politics, it may be wise for royalty to forego that luxury and to keep their own counsel.

Yours faithfully,  
CLIFFORD A. L. SADLER,  
74 Airedale Avenue,  
Chiswick, W4.

## Airs in the underworld

From Mr J. F. A. Kirkpatrick

Sir, The velvet-corded earth-boring variety of mole have been taking an apparent delight in my lawn aeration and in proving virtually immune to all recognised forms of mole deterrents. I have, however, recently been highly successful in a new form of attack.

A cheap radio in an extending aerial (enclosed in a plastic bag) has been buried in one of the moles' motorway projects. The radio is on low volume (good treble and bass quality not required) and tuned to Radio 1. It appears to work and I am now wondering whether other programmes, tapes or chat shows would be more effective.

Yours faithfully,  
J. F. A. KIRKPATRICK,  
Stable End,  
Hob Lane,  
Barton, West Midlands.







# Hard sell round the world

Britain is an exporting nation. The total value of goods sold abroad by British companies last year was more than £70 billion. Trade accounts for 30 per cent of gross national product, one of the highest percentages among developed industrial countries. And yet the need for services to support exporters is greater than ever.

The reason is the enormous intensification of competition in recent years. The combination of debt crisis, sharp contraction in world trade in 1982 and 1983, recession in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development countries (the rich-nations' club) and the rise of third world exporters of manufactured goods, have all contributed.

Consequently, exporters are faced with a multiplicity of demands, some complicated, some less so, which can deter companies with good products and prospects from entering overseas markets. The difficulties range from the paperwork, through languages and knowledge of foreign markets, to the problem of finance and ensuring payment.

But it is important that those companies already exporting should persist and that new ones should join them. It is not merely a matter of national interest - although the old graphic phrase "export or die" certainly still applies. It is also in the interest of individual companies.

The overseas market, after all, is vastly bigger than the British or even the European market. Expanding sales

opportunities have a multiplier effect on the whole company's business: more revenue, and one hopes more profit, allows for more investment, and so the engine of growth is fuelled.

Nevertheless, given the complexities of some aspects of selling abroad, every company, even the biggest, needs advice and help. At the apex of the huge pyramid of organizations and companies which try to promote British exports, is the British Overseas Trade Board. It is an official body, a semi-autonomous part of the Department of Trade and Industry, whose purpose is not to sell goods directly, but to explain to British companies how they can better serve themselves.

## The board includes many prominent businessmen

An example of these services is the new series of Export Marketing conferences launched today. The series will continue throughout 1986 when similar conferences will be held at eight other places in Britain. Each conference, which will last a full day, will cover the following basic points: Should and can a company export? What should a company do? How to select a market? How to enter the market? And, how physically to export the goods and get paid?

But this is the tip of the board's iceberg. With a gross budget of £50

million a year, the board, whose chairman is Lord Jellicoe and includes many prominent businessmen, can advise on whether your product meets the technical requirements of your chosen market, or give assessments of the political and economic conditions in a country, or help you to organize an overseas trade fair of marketing mission.

The backbone is the market intelligence gathered partly through embassies and consulates, and disseminated through libraries, nine regional department offices, and an on-line computer service to be introduced soon.

Lord Jellicoe, however, would like more cash for the board, and in his pugnacious way has not been shy about saying so. But he is also well aware that there is a limit to what an official body - albeit a flexible one - can do for companies.

After two years in the job, and with plenty of experience in other capacities as the former chairman of Tate & Lyle, a director of S. G. Warburg, the merchant bank, the new chairman of Davy Corporation, among other private and public jobs, Lord Jellicoe has plenty of advice for British exporters.

The first point he raised was the quality and size of companies' export departments. All too often, such departments are understaffed, despite their patent importance. Second, and closely linked to the first point, is the often low standard of the paperwork for exports. It is regrettable that exporting does involve heavy documentation.

But a survey showed that half of the letters of credit from British companies were rejected by banks because the paperwork was defective.

Customers increasingly have another request too, Lord Jellicoe says. They like to talk in their own language. He is scathing about the insularity of the British in still assuming that everyone speaks English.

Perhaps, Lord Jellicoe reflected, the language barrier was related to another problem: British exporters, unlike some of their European competitors, do not cultivate markets. Booming friendly with the businessmen and officials in foreign countries is just as important as knowing the technical requirements.

As true as these criticisms are, the fact remains that many British exporters, particularly bigger companies, are among the world's most proficient. The problem lies with the smaller companies, who perhaps have not considered exporting before. It is these that Lord Jellicoe wants to attract.

But there is a limit to what the board, with only 748 employees at the latest count and a budget maintained in cash terms, can do. It is the exporter who must make the right product, sell it on the right terms, and deliver it on time. The encouraging word from Lord Jellicoe as he travels the world is that he hears fewer such complaints about British companies than when he became chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board.

Michael Prest



Putting the customer first: Charles Masfield (above and left), divisional director of British Aerospace in Manchester, with a model of the Advanced Turbo Prop plane - the result of four years' market research and a knowledge of the world's airlines

## Why British research should take lessons from abroad

Britain is acknowledged as one of the world's leaders in marketing, such as advertising, packaging and design and market research. Yet it is often observed that these skills are appreciated less by British manufacturers than by their foreign competitors.

The Association of Market Survey Organizations, which represents many of the largest research firms, told the Select Committee of the House of Lords on Overseas Trade: "In comparison with the efforts of some other exporting nations, the British do not make sufficient use of research."

Chairman of Burke Research Services Group, Dawn Mitchell, told the committee: "It is clear that more is spent per capita by

foreigners on penetrating the UK market than this country spends on developing opportunities in all its overseas markets. Foreign firms also use British researchers to monitor third markets."

"Paradoxically, the more successful the British market research industry is in earning foreign currency, the worse it is for British industry", says the head of another research firm. "The money we earn from, say, Toyota and BMW is unlikely to be matched by research by the British motor car industry outside this country."

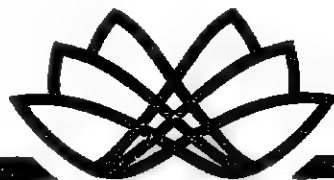
Nevertheless, there are notable exceptions. British Aerospace spent four years on market research before launching its Advanced Turbo Prop

(ATP) plane which is due to go into service in 1987. The successor to the highly successful 748 short-haul aircraft, which has been in production for more than 20 years, will depend on exports for most of its sales. Each aircraft costs over £7 million.

"We spent four years finding out what our potential customers wanted", says Charles Masfield, divisional director of British Aerospace in Manchester.

"We have a great deal of market intelligence - we know all the world's airlines. We have analysed their route structures and have seen which airlines have the potential for this type of aircraft."

Turn to next page, col 5



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## SPECIAL REPORT



## Lessons from abroad for British research

**Torin Douglas**

## A circular diagram of the Earth, showing continents and oceans in a high-contrast, stippled style. Four large, white, curved arrows originate from the center of the globe and point outwards towards the edges, representing the four cardinal directions: North, South, East, and West. The arrows are thick and have a slight curve, giving them a dynamic feel. The Earth's surface is depicted with dark, textured areas for land and lighter, speckled areas for water. The overall composition is symmetrical and centered.

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## SPECIAL REPORT

EXPORT  
MARKETING/3Why an old principle  
does not work today

One of the better potatoes being passed from hand to hand in Whitehall now is who will be responsible for selling the oil which Saudi Arabia will be paying for part of the multi-billion pound Tornado contract. Senior Whitehall sources say the idea of a barter arrangement was sprung on the Ministry of Defence salesmen at the last minute and that despite a lack of official enthusiasm for such a deal there was little choice.

The episode illustrates the pitfalls of barter trade and its first cousin counter trade. Estimates of the proportion of world trade conducted on these terms vary between a tenth and a third. Obviously the principle is old, but defining a barter deal can be difficult.

Still there is no doubt that in recent years interest in barter and counter trade agreements has increased. The United States Department of Commerce has even suggested that by the end of the century barter could account for half of world trade.

But if recent experience is a guide, that estimate is likely to prove a wild exaggeration. Several episodes have highlighted the disadvantages of barter. The Nigerians, for example, became enamoured of the idea as their foreign exchange position deteriorated.

But precisely because there was a glut of crude oil companies such as Fiat and ENI of Italy, who discussed big barter deals with Nigeria, were reluctant to take oil in payment.

The Nigerians, moreover, found that companies taking oil in payment had an unpleasant habit of dumping the oil on the market and further depressing prices.

Nor was that the end of the problem. The exporting companies who had oil, bananas, rubber, or in the case of the British Steel Corporation, most thrust upon them soon learnt that they lacked the knowledge and expertise to unload the stuff profitably.

Those with the greatest understanding of barter's mysteries are generally thought to be the continental banks, notably in Austria. From the early 1950s various eastern European countries, who had little hard currency, offered raw materials and manufactured goods in exchange for western exports. The traffic was regarded in northern Europe as a bit shadowy and improper.

But today all the clearing banks have barter trade departments, albeit often small ones, and several specialist companies have sprung up in London. Even the Department of Trade and Industry has entertained the idea. Between 5 and 8 per cent of British trade is conducted by barter or counter trade and at one stage the department was considering setting up a specialist barter organization, along the lines of those in the United States, Canada, West Germany and France.

But there is strong opposition from elsewhere in Whitehall. It is pointed out that barter trade is inefficient because it ignores the advantages of credit, poses difficulties when currencies continually fluctuate, and eliminates money which after all partly originates from the need to intermediate in trade.

Perhaps the biggest practical problems with barter are how to establish the price of a raw material and then how to guarantee its supply. Early this year the Iranians concluded a series of deals with companies such as Talbot, Volvo, and Impianti of Italy. These deals totalled £2.7 billion. But since then the price of the oil which was central to the arrangements has fallen and Iraqi attacks on Kharg Island have reduced Iran's oil exports to a trickle.

Many experts have also raised more philosophical doubts about the advisability of barter. It seems paradoxical - though both are symptoms of the same disease - that barter is increasing just as the momentum towards full ministerial meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade is building up. The common thread - the disease - is the threat to the open trading system.

That is even more true of counter trade. The phrase is a modern euphemism for an old idea: instead of simply exchanging goods for goods (barter), the exporter to a given market is obliged to accept in return goods from that market.

Barter trade may well increase but it is not an outcome to be desired. On the whole British companies have sensibly turned their faces against it, although the competitive pressures in export markets may force them to accept barter.

Certainly, it will be interesting to see who disposes of the Saudi oil and how they do it.

MP



Professional advice from Linguarama: (left), Japanese business language courses: (centre) John Burkitt, Linguarama's general manager; and a role-playing session for students which gives them experience of likely situations

## Watch your language in business

Most British people find it faintly absurd that anyone should bother to learn another language. Quite a few are positively proud of their inability to speak more than a few foreign words, in a suitably execrable accent. How else can one explain the peculiar appeal of "French"?

Recently, however, the business community has become increasingly aware that this chauvinism is beyond a joke; in fact, where exporting is concerned, it is a positive handicap.

Sir Randolph Quirk, vice-chancellor of London University and a member of the British Council, cites our serious trade imbalance with West Germany as an example of what happens when we do not improve our sales effort by learning to speak other people's languages.

"If a man is selling you something, you can afford to use your own language to him; but if he is being persuaded to buy something from you, you would be wise to use his", says Sir Randolph.

Tom Dawe, of the Department of Trade and Industry's West Midlands division, agrees: "Can you imagine the reaction of an average British consumer to a non-English speaking Japanese gentleman who tried to sell him a washing-machine face-to-face with untranslated support literature?"

Yet the vast majority of British companies still fail to train their executives in languages, according to Linguarama, the largest business language training company in Britain.

Linguarama finds more willingness to learn at its 40 schools abroad - in Japan, South America, the United States and Europe.

"For the benefit of those who believe it is almost impossible for a Brit to learn a foreign language after a certain age, John Burkitt, general manager of Linguarama, can dispel a few myths.

"Adults who studied Latin and French at school quickly discover a latent French vocabulary of about 1,500 words, and after two or three days' conversation with a native French speaker, they generally recognize another 1,500 with ease.

"The belief that the British are in some way linguistically handicapped is a myth. The luckiest geolinguistic position is unquestionably that of the native English speaker," says Mr Burkitt.

"English being basically a Germanic tongue with a very intricate Romance superstructure, the British student of languages is familiar with more than 40 per cent of the words in French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Romanian, Catalan, German, Swedish, Norwegian.

The Institute of Export The Professional Institute for Exporters

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Trade Board, the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Lloyds Bank. This scheme, however, is aimed at schoolchildren.

The Duke of Kent, vice-chairman of the BOTB, wrote a few weeks ago to all head teachers in England and Wales, informing them of the scheme. At the same time a series of posters were dispatched to more than 7,000 teachers, offering their pupils the opportunity to learn "the French/German/other language you'll never find in a text book".

The Foreign Languages at Work Scheme is aimed at schoolchildren who might otherwise give up languages after O-level. It offers courses, not necessarily more than two hours a week, mainly in oral aspects of the language - radio and television broadcasts, simulated business discussions, telephone calls and conversation.

Rupert Morris

A certificate is given on the basis of performance and no examination is required.

The scheme is recommended to schoolchildren as a career advantage. A course registration fee of £20, course consultancy fee of £30 and certification fee of £5 make the courses a practical possibility for just about anyone - largely due to the sponsorship of Lloyds Bank, which had guaranteed the scheme for three years.

Enquiries about the Foreign Languages at Work Scheme should be addressed either to the school teacher concerned, or to the BOTB, 1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET (tel: 01-215 7877).

Linguarama, obviously more expensive but aimed specifically at companies, can be contacted at 53 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5JH (tel: 01-930 7697).

Rupert Morris

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EXPORT MARKETING  
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## NEW EXPORT MARKETING CONFERENCE SERIES

A new series of Export Marketing conferences is to be launched by the British Overseas Trade Board. The first of these conferences will take place at the Barbican Centre in London on Tuesday November 5, 1985, and in 1986 the series continues in another eight major venues around the United Kingdom -

Harrogate  
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Glasgow  
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February  
March  
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Each conference lasts a full day and covers

- Why do you need to export?
- Selecting and investigating a market
- Attacking the market
- Getting your goods to the market and getting paid

The conferences are designed to give guidelines for more effective export marketing - providing a forum for companies to exchange ideas on improving their marketing operations, overseas sales and export profits. The series is being supported by the Institute of Export, Institute of Marketing, Institute of Physical Distribution Management, Market Research Society, Simplification of International Trade Procedures Board (SITPRO) and other professional organisations.

There will be prominent speakers from industry, commerce and professional organisations, together with audio visuals, case histories, comprehensive documentation, plus plenty of time to question the experts.

For details of these conferences please telephone 01-215 7877 extension 5366 or contact your BOTB Regional Office.

## BOTB Regional Offices

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Telex 297124

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Stephenson Street  
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#### EXPORT MARKETING/4

## Set a clear target for success

Norman Boakes, export marketing consultant, sums up one of the most obvious and most overlooked rules of exporting with the statement: "There's no such thing as the export market. There are many different countries, many different markets, and many different sectors — and companies should never try to tackle more than one market at a time. Concentration of effort and resources is absolutely vital."

"You don't need to be in 360 countries to have a flourishing export business," he says.

His view is supported by Ian Griffith, marketing director of the Institute of Marketing, who uses the example of two firms in the home furnishings business to reinforce the point.

Both firms had a turnover of around £10 million when they decided to start exporting their products in the mid-1970s. Firm A did little research but decided to export as much as possible by going into as many markets as possible. After three years its turnover had risen to £14 million, of which some £3 million was export business.

Firm B decided to limit its exports to the United States and Australia. Research had shown that they had high consumption of the type of goods it produced and they were both English-speaking. After three years its turnover was up by 40 per cent and a quarter of its output was exported.

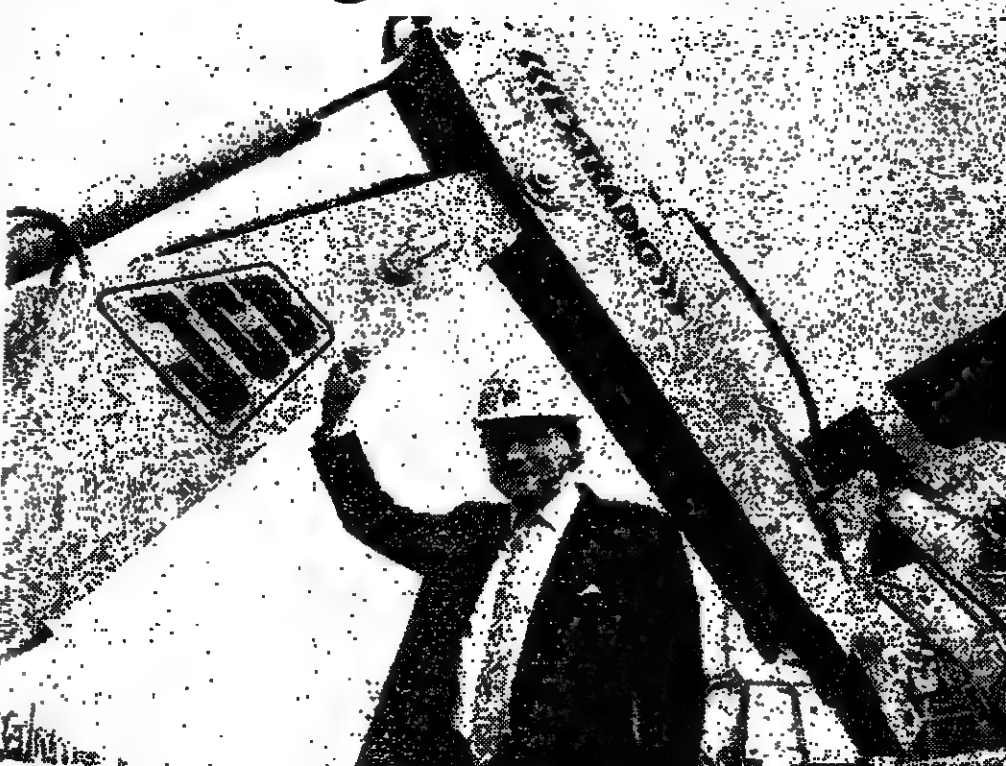
At the end of the 1970s both companies were hit by the recession. Firm A found that its trade was too diverse — it was a small fish in a great many ponds. At the same time, its constant need to maintain a healthy business at home led it to neglect its export side in order to keep the UK market supplied.

Firm B managed to weather the recession because it was a more powerful force in its export markets and, while firm A was forced to pull out of many of its markets, firm B was able to build up its US business by seconding two of its executives there to handle the growth in person.

"You must decide that exports are going to become a lasting part of your business," says Mr Griffith. "The market strategy must be well thought out and there must be commitment right from the top to ensure that proper resources are devoted to export."

"About 80 per cent of exports from this country come from only 10 per cent of British companies — these are the ones that do it well."

One is JCB, the manufacturer of earth-moving equipment, which exports almost 70 per cent of its output. The company made profits last year of £154 million, with the United States accounting for 20 per cent of sales. Its best-selling line is a vehicle called the 180-degree



Hard-headed approach to exporting: Anthony Bamford, chairman of JCB, the manufacturer of earth-moving equipment like the 180-degree backhoe loader

backhoe loader, which is market leader in over 50 countries.

"Export is our daily bread," says JCB's chairman Anthony Bamford. "Many firms market their goods well in their home market but forget to apply the same disciplines for export. For example, many companies simply do not have enough people on exports — they have an export department consisting of one or two people."

"You need your best people selling in the export markets — by comparison it's a doddle selling in the home market."

JCB's first export market was France, which now accounts for about 10 per cent of its sales — it has 26 per cent of the backhoe loader market there.

#### 'Export is our daily bread'

"My father started exporting to France shortly after he set up the company," says Mr Bamford. "It was the market country — he couldn't afford to go any further. Since then we've always seen Europe as our home market."

JCB did not venture into the United States until 13 years ago and its experience demonstrates the commitment required to build a major export presence there.

"It's only in the past three years that we've started making profits in the US," says Mr Bamford. "If we'd been a public company, I don't think the shareholders would have put up with it that long. Yet over 50 per cent of the world market is in the US — we couldn't afford not to be there."

#### (SPECIAL REPORT)

## Overseas credit feels the pinch

The prosaically named Export Credits Guarantee Department is a lynchpin of the British effort to increase overseas earnings. The department claims to insure about 25 per cent of Britain's non-oil visible exports and some invisibles as well, totalling £17 billion a year. But there have been some fractures in the pin recently and urgent repairs are being made.

At the heart of the department's problems is the conflict between its statutory obligation to encourage exports on the one hand and the non-statutory, but no less insistent for that, Treasury requirement that the department runs at no net cost to public funds.

For many years the problem hardly arose. For most of its history — the department was founded just after the First World War — it has been in credit with the Consolidated Fund. The fund is a kind of bank account run by the Treasury to finance the daily workings of government departments. But in the early 1980s, under the impact of the debt crisis, things started to go wrong.

Claims soared, jumping from £674 million to £835 million in the single year 1983-84 to 1984-85, easily dwarfing premium income of £170 million a year.

and quickly gobbling up the department's reserves. As a result, borrowings from the consolidated fund rose from £40 million in 1983-84, to £390 million last year, and are likely to well be over £500 million this year.

The department, of course, was not unique in encountering heavy debt. Other export insurance and credit agencies around the world suffered similarly. The Iranian revolution, and Latin American debt crisis, and the boom and bust in Nigeria took nearly everyone by surprise. Nor were the difficulties confined to developing countries.

World recession took its toll in Europe, where bankruptcies have risen 36 per cent in three years, and in North America where claims against the department have leapt by 80 per cent since 1982.

But officials admit that part of the department's problem was the sheer size of its activities. By the late 1970s it was insuring exports of every kind to almost every market in the world. Not all of these services were necessarily profitable in good times, and they were certainly not in bad times.

Jack Gill, the department's permanent secretary, warned the Commons Public Accounts Committee in February that in

the worst case the department's borrowings could reach £1 billion. He said: "To a large extent there is absolutely nothing I can do because of the overhang of past liabilities. I am a silent spectator of the forces of fate."

This was, and is, certainly true. The nature of any insurance business is that debts can come rolling in years after the first premium was paid. The department hopes that the worst is over and the volume of claims will at least stop growing this year. Much will depend on whether world trade maintains its momentum and even then certain markets will be effectively ruled out — what the department calls "off cover".

The present "blacklist" is Mozambique, Poland, Zambia and Argentina. The department claims that only commercial considerations apply, but in the case of Argentina that is questionable. Other countries, such as Nigeria, which has been the department's biggest headache, may qualify for only limited cover.

In any event, work on reforms had begun long before Mr Gill appeared before the committee. In 1984 the government rejected the central suggestion of a review conducted by Sir Peter Matthews, formerly chairman of Vickers, that the department become a public corporation, rather like the Post Office.

A subsequent enquiry under Fred Chapman, an under-secretary at the department, conducted with the help of Coopers & Lybrand, the accountants, suggested setting up an executive board composed of outsiders, with the present permanent secretary transformed into a chief executive.

There would be an annual business plan approved by the board and operations were to be streamlined by greater use of information technology, centralization, and generally making the department look more like a private sector corporation than a government department.

Once again ministers demurred and put forward instead the idea of recruiting three out of five under-secretaries from the private sector. The search for one such is under way. But a good many of the streamlining suggestions may be implemented.

The department is sensitive to accusations of red tape. It claims that a quarter of applications can be turned round in 48 hours and two-thirds are completed within three working weeks.

Its sales pitch is simple: at an average rate for normal business of 1p in the pound, saving on its insurance premiums is a false economy for any exporter.

MP

#### Credit insurance is the backbone

#### 'Willingness to market the range'

trade and consumers. The US launch was a success and the range was later extended into Canada, Australia, and Sweden.

"The secret of our success was that we had accurately identified a group of consumers whose interests and buying habits were very similar, despite national differences," says Mr Boakes.

"Most importantly, we were not having to sell down to a price, so the margins were adequate to support some promotional activity."

"Finally, as we had a stake in the equity of the company, we had the commitment."

Such opportunities may be rare, Mr Boakes concedes, but they do exist and, with imagination, they can be created. TD

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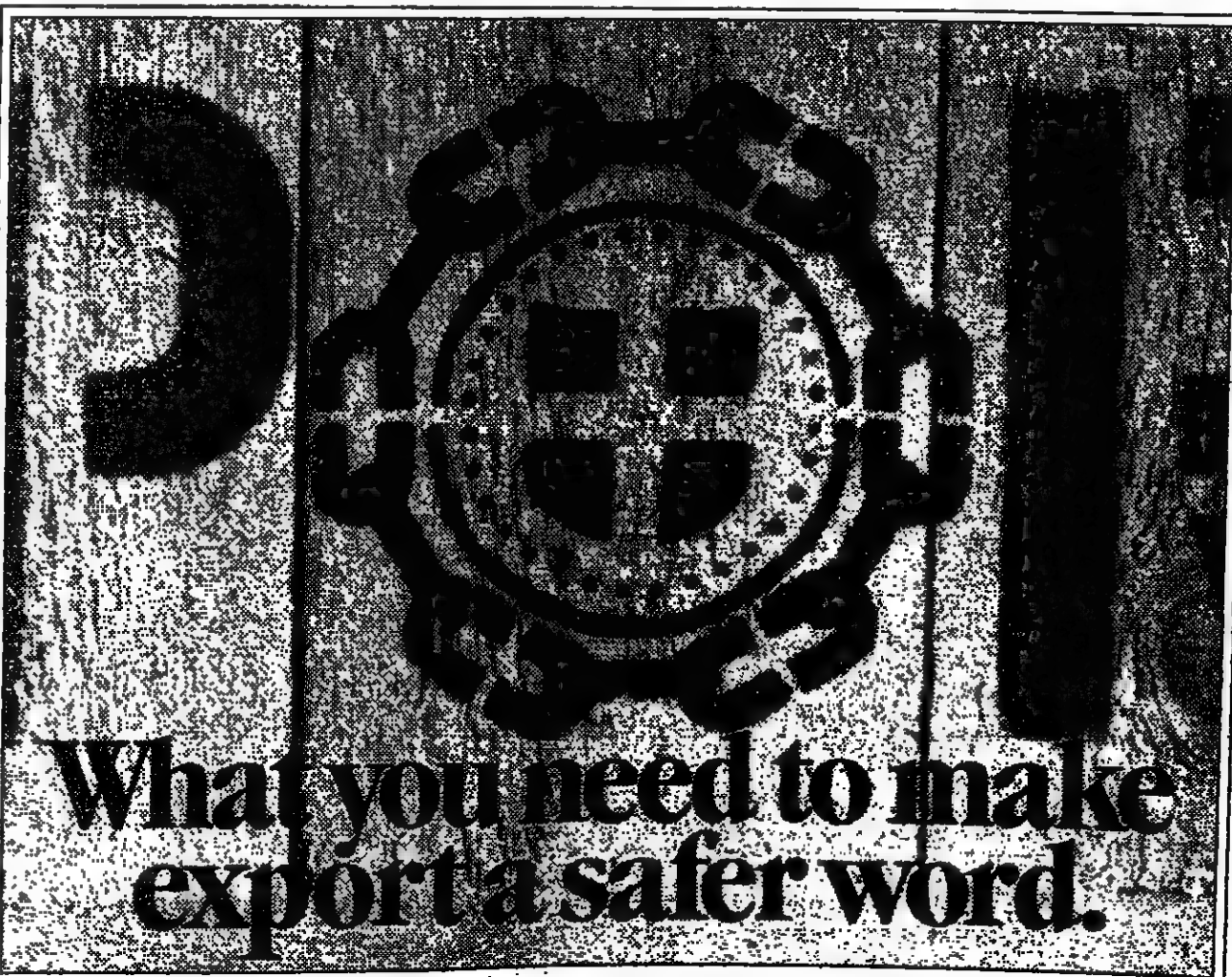
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## SPECIAL REPORT

EXPORT  
MARKETING/5

Global marketing as a business philosophy: Saatchi &amp; Saatchi has used familiar Superwoman type images to promote British Airways in television advertising

## Lack of cash and support leaves Britain behind

"Market research is very much the starting point of marketing," says the director-general of the Institute of Marketing, Tony McBurnie. "You have to do something to make people buy your product - and you can do that only by finding out what they want."

If that is true when selling in the home market, where business people have the evidence of their own eyes and ears to help them, it is doubly so when selling overseas. It is a lesson the Japanese and Americans learned long ago, but which the British - together with most other European countries - seem reluctant to profit from.

"Britain is a long way behind the US and Japan in maximizing its export potential through research," says Mrs Dawn Mitchell, chairman of Burke Research Services Group, who recently gave evidence to the Select Committee of the House of Lords on Overseas Trade.

"It should be noted that every incursion which the Japanese have made into our European markets has been scrupulously researched," she told the committee. "Furthermore, the Japanese continue to monitor customer satisfaction and respond to consumer demand with product modification and innovation."

"In the US, teaching managers to use market research forms an important part of the course in all top business schools like Harvard. It is noticeable that most successful US-owned multinationals regard international research as a continuous process, which aids decision-taking at every stage."

British companies, she says,

are far less willing to use research to its full potential. "While research may be used to evaluate new market opportunities, it is rare for a manufacturer to set up the regular customer satisfaction studies and basic usage and attitude surveys which would alert him to potential problems (such as declining market share and less favourable experiences) and to potential opportunities."

There are several reasons for the under-use of international research by British firms. The most obvious is one of cost. While basic desk-research does not cost much, international field research is expensive, partly because overseas research costs tend to be higher than in Britain and partly because

## Free professional advice to firms

several countries may be involved in a single project. But the market researchers believe that another major factor is the lack of encouragement and financial support shown by the Government.

The secretary-general of Gallup International said in evidence to the Lord's Select Committee: "I feel that British management in general has been slow to come to terms with our profession and I regard the activities of the Foreign Office as part and parcel of this."

"On only very rare occasions has the Foreign Office shown any but a sporadic interest in the results of opinion surveys." Nevertheless, the British Overseas Trade Board does provide advice and financial

help to firms that want to research overseas markets. In addition to its Market Prospects Service and Export Intelligence Service, which provide information both on markets around the world and the specific prospects for particular firms, it also runs an Export Marketing Research Scheme.

This offers free professional advice to firms on how to set about their export marketing research and financial support if they decide to embark on a research project. Grants are available to pay up to half the cost of commissioning professional consultants to undertake market research overseas, a third of the cost of setting up an in-house research facility, and a third of the cost of purchasing published market research.

If the research shows that a firm should set up an export department, the British Overseas Trade Board will pay half the cost of hiring management consultants to advise how best to go about it, up to a limit of £5,000. The maximum grant for any project is £20,000 and there is an aggregate limit of £40,000 a year.

The problem with the board's scheme, according to the Association of Market Survey Organizations (AMSO) is that it mainly benefits small businesses rather than the large companies with the potential to make a really significant contribution to the balance of trade. AMSO suggested to the Select Committee on Overseas Trade that real and sustained government support for export research would in itself demonstrate the value of information to individual companies.

TD

## Caught in the currency trap

There is no surer sign of the extent to which currency fluctuations dominate the concerns of exporters than the daily detailing by Press, radio and even television of an increasing number of different exchange rates.

In a bygone age of fixed exchange rates when sterling was still a major world trading currency today's problems would have been undreamed of nightmares apart. Unfortunately they are now all too real.

The fundamental reason for the currency worries which every exporter faces is, of course, the disintegration in the early 1970s of the Bretton Woods system of fixed parities. Once currencies were no longer automatically pegged to the dollar, chiefly because the almighty dollar itself had lost some of its potency and was no longer fixed to gold, no exporter could be sure of the value of his

product, either to himself or to his customer.

For the essential point is that the price uncertainty works both ways. It is not just that the British exporter must select which currency will offer the best price. The purchaser must also decide whether to accept an invoice in his own or another currency.

One of the most noticeable developments on the world trading scene in the past 15 years or so has been the expanding number of participants, their size, and the new patterns of trade which have grown up between them. The oil price increases of the 1970s created a new class of prolific importers: industrialization in the Third World and a period of rapid economic growth stimulated trade between the countries of the south.

So how should the exporter respond to a world in which the

dollar can rise from 2.40 to near parity with the pound in less than three years? The answer is to revert to fundamentals. The central problem is how to lock in a given profit or price.

Banks, private export credit and insurance companies, and government agencies have come up with numerous ingenious ways of fixing the exporter's price in the currency of his choice. They all start from the premise that giving the finance director the clearest idea of his future cash flow is the most important requirement. This minimizes borrowing when interest rates are high and uses cash more efficiently.

Huge though the business is, it has been overshadowed in recent years by the emergence of futures, and laterally options, in such places as the London International Financial Futures Exchange.

MP

## A fight for growth

insurance operation, and it typifies the way the market is being exploited. It is owned in equal parts by three of the world's biggest insurance companies - Skandia, Continental of New York, and Yasuda Fire and Marine of Japan - with combined assets of £23 billion. Panfinancial specializes in what it dramatically calls "catastrophe insurance" for large companies.

Panfinancial's average customer has a turnover of £100 million. By contrast, turnover of the average customer of Trade Indemnity, an older company which sticks mainly to exporter and buyer credit insurance, is around £5 million.

A sure sign of the trend is given by two new insurance and credit companies which opened for business in the City this year. Panfinancial is strictly an

Rather different from Panfinancial is Exfinco, which only began trading in July. Exfinco is the direct result of the deliberations of the British Export Finance Advisory Council, which was set up in 1981 to discuss ways of improving the facilities available to exporters. It boasts two particular services: one is the speed at which customers receive the cash for their goods and the second is the claimed elimination of foreign exchange risks.

Exfinco says that the insured company receives all of the ECGD credit insured (which is 90 per cent of the invoice value) within 24 hours of Exfinco being given notice of shipment. The remainder is paid on a date reflecting the average time buyers take to pay, which at the moment is 84 days.

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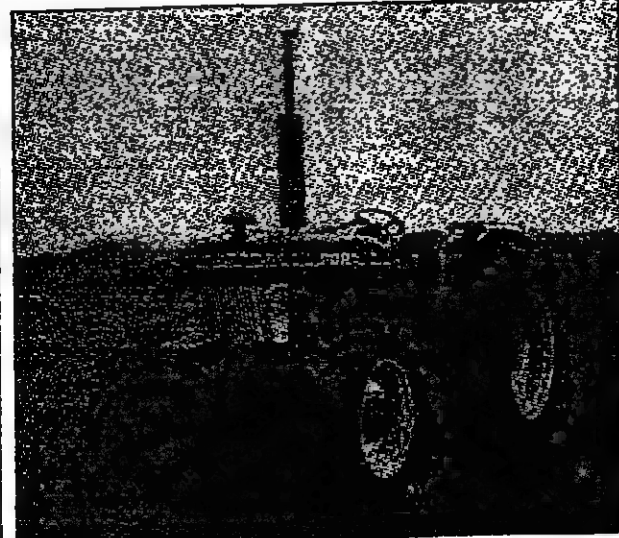
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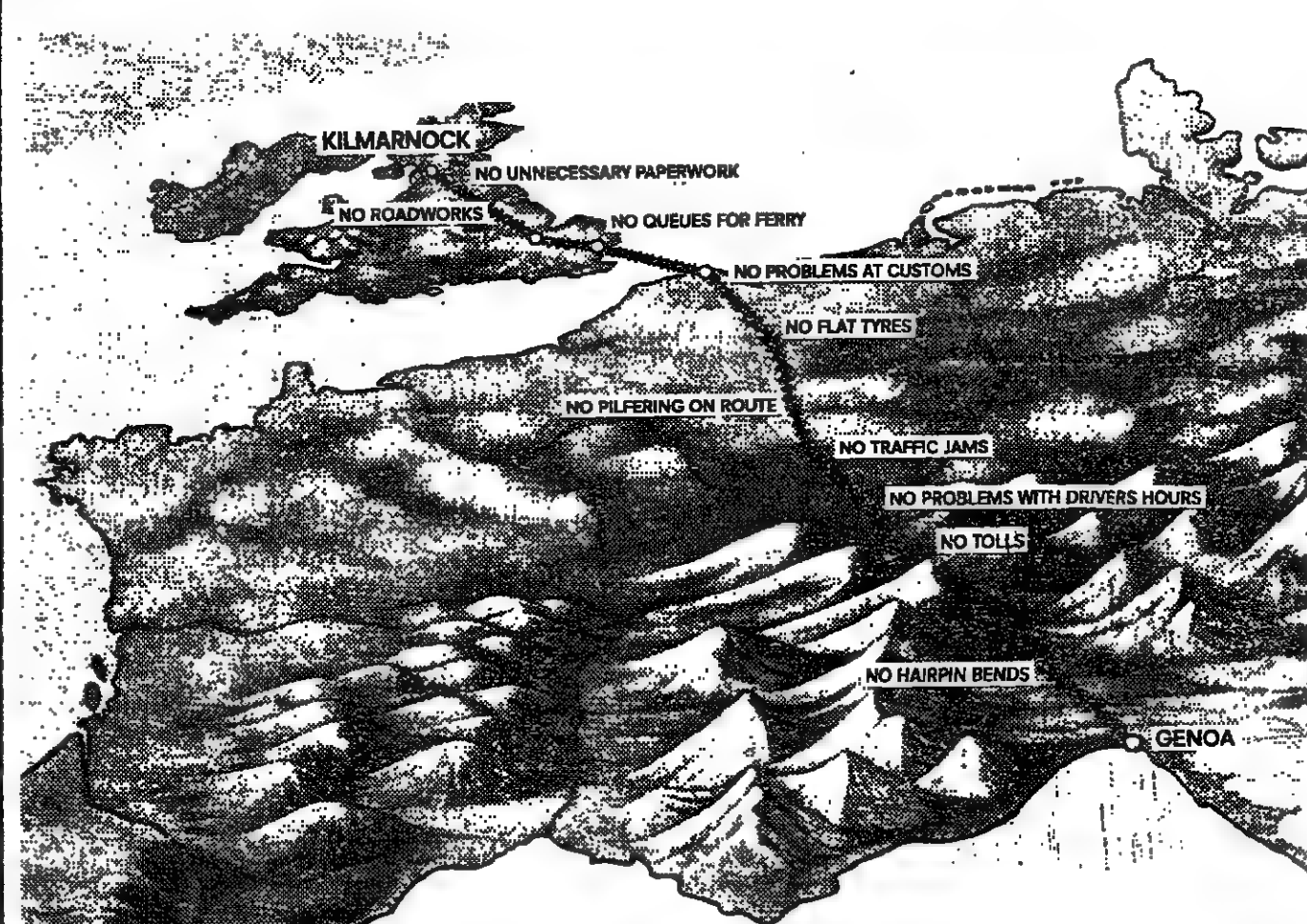
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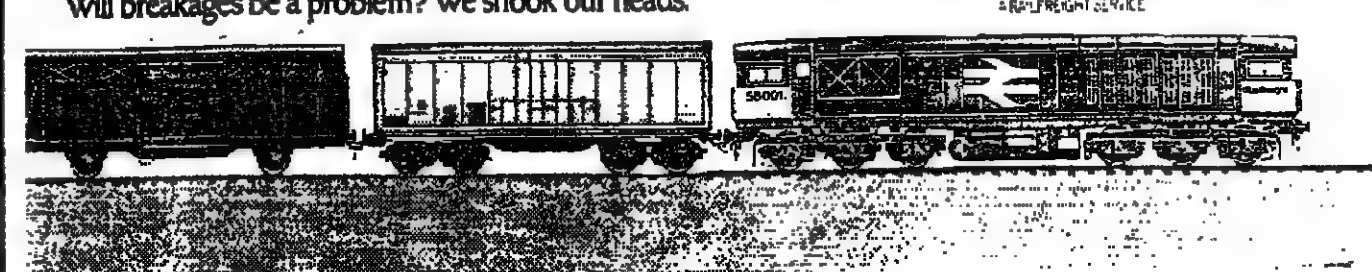
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# FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Baker playing a delicate and dangerous game

There have been so many portents of international financial disaster in the three years since Mexico first alerted the banks to the risk of a major default that it would be foolish to seize on the tin debacle as the final signal. But it is a danger sign that cannot be ignored.

The consequences of weak commodity prices have been politely forgotten in Britain, for perhaps three reasons. First, and most respectably, because we do not want to be drawn into an argument that would lead to support for more fixed prices and subsidized international cartels. Second, and less respectably, because if we forget about falling raw material prices we can pretend that inflation is coming down through our own efforts. Third, and perhaps understandably, because the price of the commodity on which the British economy depends, albeit for only about 6 per cent of output, has been declining only slowly and stickily, giving up plenty of time to adjust.

Other commodity prices, however, are behaving more dramatically. And other countries depend on them for a darned sight more than 6 per cent of national income. Although raw material prices did not rise in the early 1980s with the inflationary bounce, that normally accompanies world economic recovery, the American boom of 1983-84 was enough to provide a floor. Now that has been removed. Hence Western bankers' renewed anxieties about their debtors in the developing world.

For it has become increasingly clear that the banks themselves were the instigators of the plan the US Treasury Secretary, James Baker, unveiled to the rest of the world last month. With that understanding, much else about the plan becomes plain.

Mr Baker's presentation can be seen to be dominated by the need to pretend that his plan is not designed to bail the banks out. But if the plan means anything, it certainly means shifting the burden of debt management from the commercial banks to the international financial institutions: not the International Monetary Fund, this time, but the World Bank.

Consider the way the figures have been presented. The Baker plan envisaged a \$20 billion increase in net commercial bank exposure to a shortlist of 15 risky countries over the next three years. It also envisaged a \$9 billion increase in lending by the multilateral development banks to the same group of countries. It thus appears that the commercial banks would be putting in twice as much as the World Bank and funds.

These summary figures for the plan, however, compare chalk with cheese. If one looks carefully at the total lending to these countries by the World Bank and friends envisaged in the Baker plan (not just the increase over and above present annual lending levels) computed on the same net basis as the target for the commercial banks, then the three-year total for the multilateral development banks adds up to more than \$19 billion. This makes for a rather different picture, in which the contributions of private and government-backed funds are pretty well equal. With this kind of balance, the question of how the money is used becomes critical. For if, at one extreme, all the government-backed money from the World Bank and others were to be used to guarantee commercial bank loans, then the result would be a simple bail-out for Western banking.

This is not to say that the new US Treasury Secretary has sold his soul, and the international financial institutions, to the American banks. It is becoming comfortably clear that the money will not be used for straightforward guarantees of bank loans, except at the margins of a big loan package. It is much less clear how the

money will be used, neither the Treasury nor the World Bank seems to have taken its thinking very far yet. But what Mr Baker is engaged in is a delicate game of manoeuvre with all parties, designed to keep them all seriously engaged in keeping the present financial system ticking over for the next three dangerous years.

It can be argued that the game itself is becoming too dangerous, that in the continuing struggle to avoid a major default banks and international financial institutions alike are piling up a burden of impossible tasks. In an interesting comparison with world experience in the 1930s, Professor Richard Portes, of the Centre for Economic Policy Research, has published a paper which suggests that the explanation for default is rather simple. It occurred when the burden of debt service became too high, in relation to national income or export earnings, usually after a Government borrowing spree. Special factors, such as politics, were far less important in determining which countries did default than these fundamental economic facts. Which takes us straight back to the present day, and the still-rising burden of debt service on countries whose incomes and export earnings have now been further hit by falling commodity prices.

There is another reason to fear we are now closer to default than we have been since 1982. This, ironically, is the consequence of the steps taken by many developing countries to weather the first three-year phase of the debt crisis. While commodity prices were still relatively strong and America was buying heavily to feed its boom, most of them managed to boost exports temporarily, cut imports and rebuild international reserves. Ironically, this actually increased the likelihood of default. For the biggest short-term deterrent to default is that it would cut off access to all kinds of international credit, in particular the export credits provided by other countries, thus a country toying with default must be in a position to pay for its imports for a few critical post-default months.

Many more large debtors are in this position now than in 1982. Should we worry? For Professor Portes's analysis also, and most interestingly, suggests that default was not the nightmare we now fear it to be, that debtors and creditors quickly mended their bridges, and indeed, that the eventual returns on loans hit by default were quite respectable.

There are, however, some critical differences between the inter-war debt crisis and the present one. The first is that the international financial system is far more like a pack of cards, the losers from default are not spread wide through the economic system, but concentrated in a way that magnifies its effect. The second is that much more negotiation, today, has taken place before default, which can therefore be seen as the end rather than the beginning of any attempt to patch up differences between the parties. The third difference, which relates to this long negotiating process, is that so much of today's debt is at floating interest rates. The possibility of successful resolution of a debt crisis without default is therefore far greater, provided only that those who manage the world's money can succeed in bringing interest rates down.

Which brings us back to Mr Baker, and the reasons for striving to help him to manage this next stage of the debt crisis. For we have learnt what it is like to live with American indifference to the fate of the world economy, and we did not enjoy the effects, either on interest rates or currencies. We, too, have an interest in keeping Mr Baker engaged.

**Sarah Hogg**  
Economics Editor

## Bank hopes to recover £150m rescue costs from JMB sale

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

The Bank of England is set to announce this month that it intends to sell Johnson Matthey Bankers, which it saved from collapse 13 months ago. The sale will then go ahead as rapidly as possible, but is unlikely to be completed this year.

Baring Brothers, the City merchant bank advising the Bank of England on the JMB affair, has already prepared most of the documentation relating to the sale, including information on JMB's troubled loan book. Negotiations for the sale cannot go ahead in detail before the audit on JMB being carried out by the accountants, Price Waterhouse, has been completed. That is expected this month.

The Bank has already received more than 30 inquiries from groups interested in buying JMB and hopes to narrow the list to about 15 to 20 serious potential buyers soon after this month's announcement. Most of the interest has come from British and foreign banks, although non-banking companies are also involved. Sources said that the sale was attracting strong interest in the United States.

The Bank, and its advisers, hope to recover from the sale almost all of the £150 million so far put up to rescue JMB. It deposited £100 million with JMB and a wide range of City banks have so far put up about £50 million as part of an indemnity arrangement. Baring

Brothers is among them.

Many experts in the City expected the Bank - which bought JMB for £1 last year, saying it was purely a short-term commitment to put it back on its feet - to sell off JMB in pieces. While the commercial loan book was disastrous, the bullion dealing operation was still healthy. But the decision not to split up the JMB group appears to have come as a result of the buying inquiries, which indicate that the bank can be sold as a whole.

The substantial tax loss on JMB's loan book, which can be offset against profits on other parts of the bank's operations, are proving attractive to potential buyers. Once the audit

is completed, provisions against bad debt are expected to amount to about £230 million, compared with a total loan portfolio of £450 million. The provisions will be built into the sale price.

The Bank expects to have sorted out the problems relating to many JMB loans by the time of the sale. It would then revert to a purely supervisory role, but any problems outstanding would have to be dealt with by JMB's new owners.

There is still a Fraud Squad investigation into JMB's affairs, and this week Mr Brian Sedgemore, Labour MP for Hackney South and Shoreditch is expected to make further allegations in Parliament about JMB.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### 'No bid for Cadbury'

Kleinwort Benson, the adviser to Cadbury Schweppes, said yesterday that it had no reason to believe the suggestion that the American banker Goldman Sachs was trying to organize a bid for the company. "The share price does not suggest anything of the sort: it has been falling," explained Mr Simon Robertson.

He acknowledged that, after the takeover of General Foods in the United States and the bid for Allied-Lyons in Britain there was increasing interest in food companies and Cadbury Schweppes would expect to share in it. However, he thought it unlikely that clients of Goldman Sachs now held a tenth of Cadbury Schweppes shares.

#### TSB denial

The Trustee Savings Bank Group has denied that it is planning to hand over its £1.2 billion mortgage portfolio to Chemical Bank, the US institution, to enable it to move into corporate lending business.

#### Revlon ruling

A US court has ruled that attempts by Revlon to prevent a takeover by Pantry Pride are illegal. These involved "poison pill" provisions similar to those which SCM and Merrill Lynch are using to try to prevent SCM being taken over by Hanson Trust. The legal action over that bid resumes in New York today.

Brokers could incur losses of up to £200 million, as a result of the tin crisis, Mr Colin Clark, a director of Holco Trading Company, a tin broker, said yesterday on Channel Four's *Business Programme*. That could set up a run of collapses spreading to brokers with no direct relationship with the International Tin Council. The chairman of the London Metal Exchange, Mr Mike Brown, said he had warned Mr Leon Brittan, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, that the LME would probably come to an end if steps were not rapidly taken to solve the tin market's problems.

#### Rothschild sale

J. Rothschild Holdings is to sell up to 75 per cent of Charterhouse Group International (CHUSA) to investors including Electra Investment Trust, Stough Estates and Charterhouse Japhet. J. Rothschild is also selling its 50 per cent holding in Mezzanine Capital Corporation. The two deals will bring net proceeds of about \$25 million (£17.5 million).

#### Shanghai shares

Shanghai has decided to set up a company to buy and sell shares. The city's stock market was closed down in 1949.

## Backing for EMS membership

By Our Economics Editor

The British Government could sell oil bonds to other European countries to reduce the pressures on sterling if Britain became a full member of the European Monetary System, according to a briefing paper prepared by the Centre for Economic Forecasting at the London Business School.

In its latest forecast report, the LBS cautiously supports full membership of the EMS system of fixed exchange rates between European countries, arguing that it is quite compatible with Government monetary policy and would help reduce exchange rate volatility.

However, the LBS rejects the notion that Britain should go in at a lower exchange rate than the pound's present rate against the mark, arguing that this

would allow too much headroom for cost inflation.

The LBS's new forecast suggests that, even without membership of the EMS, British inflation will continue to fall next year. It accepts the Chancellor's view that the figure for retail prices may be as low as 2.5 per cent by the middle of 1986, though it is forecasting a 4.3 per cent rise in consumer prices during 1986 as a whole.

The LBS is also predicting a slowdown in growth to only 2.5 per cent next year. It expects a modest fall in registered unemployment in 1986, but it believes labour demand will remain weak as real wages continue to rise substantially.

The business school calculates that consumer spending may

rise in real terms by a full 16 per cent between 1985 and 1990.

It expects the Chancellor to stick to his present borrowing targets for the coming years, but to step up asset sales to keep within them. In the LBS's view this enables the Chancellor to cut taxes by £1 billion in the next Budget.

The LBS expects falling inflation to squeeze industry's profits, though it expects a modest decline in the pound and some easing in interest rates, with bank base rates dropping to 8 per cent by 1987.

However, investment declines in its forecast, and the growth rate projected for 1987 is only 2.1 per cent. Unemployment, therefore, levels off again, while inflation rises marginally in the LBS forecast for 1987.

## CBI rejects resolutions criticizing Government

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

May resolutions from all parts of the country criticizing the Government's policies on manufacturing industry, unemployment and the economy have been rejected for official debate at the Confederation of British Industry's annual conference in Harrogate which opens on November 17.

Instead, the 16 motions selected from the 220 submitted concentrate on self-help and call for industry to take the initiative in helping to reduce unemployment, improve youth training and foster better management standards, product quality and marketing.

Mrs Thatcher's Administration has recently come under fire from industry and the unions for ministers' outright

dismissal of the controversial House of Lords Select Committee report, which pointed to the danger of the decline in manufacturing industry. This issue is expected to produce one of the conference's major debates.

The chosen resolution, from the CBI's West Midlands council, expresses deep concern at Britain's large and growing trade deficit in manufacturing goods and urges industry, with the Government, to develop a strategic framework for strengthening the worldwide competitiveness of British companies.

Rejected resolutions will have a chance of reinstatement after a ballot in which delegates will choose five for debate.

## Industry faces inner city call

Trade union leaders will urge the Government and industry at tomorrow's meeting of the National Economic Development Council to make much greater commitment to the regeneration of the inner cities, our Industrial Correspondent writes.

A paper submitted by the Trades Union Congress says that the Government alone cannot solve the urban problems that have led to high unemployment and the recent riots.

The TUC suggests that the proportion of pretax profits devoted to urban renewal projects in Britain is 0.1 per cent, and that in the United States the figure is many times higher.

But the TUC wants industry to take a more direct role, one beyond that of property developer.



David Stevens

## United likely to sell TV-am stake

By Patricia Wheatcroft

United Newspapers, the new owner of Fleet Holdings, will meet the Independent Broadcasting Authority in the next few days to discuss the future of the 30 per cent holding in TV-am which the acquisition of Express Newspapers brought.

The stake will probably be sold to a group of institutions, there are no plans for a public flotation of TV-am before 1987. The IBA is opposed to any increasing concentration of ownership of television stations and is concerned about United Newspapers' involvement at TV-am because the company already holds about a tenth of the shares in Yorkshire Television and Tyne Tees Television.

United Newspapers' executive, Mr Gordon Linacre, said yesterday that the IBA had not set any deadline by which it would expect the company to sell its TV-am shares, but they would be meeting to discuss the matter soon.

Last month the IBA voted a bid for Thames Television from Carlton Communications, insisting that control of the station should be spread more widely than a single public company. Extending this argument, the IBA would probably hope to see United Newspapers' stake in TV-am pass into new hands.

TV-am, which two years ago was on the brink of collapse, has recovered under Mr Ian Irvine, managing director of Fleet Holdings, who chaired TV-am's executive committee. Following the £317 million takeover from United Newspapers under the chairman, Mr David Stevens, Mr Irvine resigned from Fleet. He remains on the board of TV-am.

## New oil contract

A new crude oil futures contract begins trading on the International Petroleum Exchange in London today. It is priced on an index of Brent Blend from the North Sea.

## Base rates 'could fall sharply'

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The changes in the system of monetary control announced by the Chancellor last month could pave the way for big tax cuts and a sharp decline in interest rates next year, according to a City forecast, published today.

Laing & Cruckshank, the stockbroker, says that by abandoning the earlier policy of overfunding to rein back sterling M3 growth, the Government could tolerate a far higher public sector borrowing requirement.

Mr Malcolm Roberts, senior economist at Laing & Cruckshank, predicts a PSBR of £11 billion for 1986-87 after tax cuts of £3.5 billion in the March Budget. He believed that oil revenues would underfoot by £2.5 billion next year.

Mr Roberts says that lower interest rates could arise because of the effect of the high level of rates on growth in narrow money, MO. The Chancellor would grab the opportunity to cut rates if MO growth slowed, even at the expense of a declining exchange rate.

Laing & Cruckshank expects a fall in base rates to 8.5 per cent by the end of next year. But Hoare Govett, in its *Gilt Edge Monitor*, predicts an easing in base rates. Now 11.5 per cent, they could begin to fall in the next six weeks if the pound remained strong, it says.

## Whitehall urged to simplify reports

By Our City Staff

Financial documents produced by the Government are criticized for their "incomprehensible terminology" in a study which calls on the Government to present its figures in more straightforward fashion.

Mr Andrew Lickierman, of the London Business School, believes that many who should make use of official documents, including the majority of MPs, find them impenetrable.

The study, commissioned by

the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants, is a follow-up to a similar exercise in July, 1984. That report was largely accepted by the Treasury Select Committee at the end of last year. But, according to Mr Lickierman, who with Ms Pauline Creasey, produced the report, progress since then has been limited.

Mr Lickierman's demand that all government departments should provide annual financial

reports was endorsed by the Treasury Committee, but there is no sign of such reports being produced. "I expect to see them within five years," he said.

His examination of the main government reports concluded that, "while the clarity and substance of some aspects of government reports have been enhanced, other features have become even more obscure, been omitted or been inappropriately presented."

### MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS	
Friday's close and change on week	
FT Ind 100	1070.8 (+19.8)
FT All Share	872.15 (+15.49)
FT Govt Securities	83.83 (-0.21)
FT SE 100	1378.9 (+31.7)
Datamark USM	110.09 (+1.82)
Bargains	24.333
New York	
Dow Jones	1390.25 (+33.73)
Telco	
Nikkei Dow	12,808.10 (-46.88)
Hong Kong	
Hang Seng	1680.65 (+8.92)
Amsterdam: GEN	228.5 (+2.5)
Sydney: AO	1006.2 (-48.0)
Frankfurt	
Commerzbank	1770.3 (+65.1)
Brussels	
General	837.85 (+121.57)
Paris: CAC	221.0 (+3.8)
Zurich	
SKA General	443.80 (+9.6)
CURRENCIES	
London:	
£: \$1.4375 (+0.015)	
£: DM3.7544 (-0.0191)	
£: Sfr13.0784 (-0.0084)	
£: FF11.4425 (-0.0591)	
£: Yen300.87 (-4.54)	
£ Index	80.4 (-0.1)

New York:	
£: \$1.4430	
£: DM2.5947	
\$ Index	129.4 (-1.4)
ECU	20.585870
SDR	10.742500
GOLD	
London fixing:	
am \$324.65pm \$323.50	
close \$324.50-\$325.00	(226-226.50)
New York:	
Comex	\$326.00
BOARD MEETINGS	
TODAY - Interims: Associated British Foods, Biscuit Tin, Geers Gross, Lickierman International (amended), Newmarket Co (third quarter), Oxford Instruments Group, Tysons (Contractors), wire & Plastic Products.	
Finals: Bridport-Gundry, Champion.	
TOMORROW - Interims: Comcon Holdings, Ecobric, Electromoparts, German Smaller Companies Investment Trust, J Sainsbury, Whitbread Investment Company.	

Finals: Firstland Oil and Gas, Gomme Holidays, J Hepworth, Keystone Investment Company, Tay Homes, W A Tyack, UDO Holdings.	
WEDNESDAY - Interims: Continental & Industrial Trust, Graig Shipping, Meadow Farm Produce (amended), Philips Lamps, Shlitz, W A Holdings.	
Finals: International Thomson Organisation (final dividend), Jessups.	
THURSDAY - Interims: British Borneo Petroleum Syndicate, Buckley's Brewery, Case Group, Cater Allen, Feb International, Fleming Far Eastern Investment Trust, Framlington Overseas Income and Growth Fund, Grampian Television, Hambro Investment Trust, King & Shaxson, Normans Group, Renold, Royal Dutch Petroleum (third quarter), Sheel Transport and Trading (third quarter), Warnford Investments.	
Finals: Tyack Turner, Wemyss Investment Trust.	
FRIDAY - Interims: Aquascutum Group, Asset Special Situations Trust, Futura Holdings, Hill Samuel Group.	
Finals: Aronson Group, Cagile (GB), Fiva Oaks Investments, London & Provincial Shop Centres (amended), Micro Focus.	

# UBAF

BANK LIMITED

## NEW ADDRESS

On Monday, 4th November 1985  
the business (and the registered office)  
of UBAF Bank Limited, London  
is transferred to

# 30 GRESHAM STREET LONDON EC2V 7LP

TELEPHONE: Main Switchboard (01) 606 7777  
Dealers: (01) 600 0732/3/4  
(01) 600 0777/8/9  
(01) 600 8525/6

TELEX:  
(unchanged)  
Main Number 22961  
Dealers: 885653/4/5

FAX: (01) 600 3318

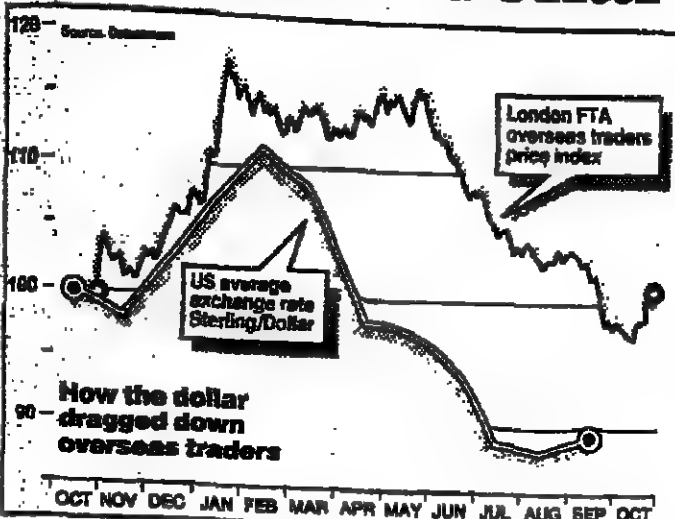






## ORDINARY SHARES

## Overseas trade sector casualty of weaker dollar



The Group of Five meeting in New York on September 22 has had an immediate and predictable impact on the shares of overseas traders. As our chart shows, it steepened what was an already precipitous fall in the face of the dollar's weakness. The question for investors is whether the subsequent minor recovery has any real foundation, or whether it simply presents a belated opportunity to sell before the net sets in.

The Group of Five's aim was to depress the dollar, and so far it has succeeded. It will continue to succeed as long as the foreign exchange markets believe that the powers that be are prepared to put financial muscle behind their wish. The upheaval in the overseas bond market has underlined the seriousness of that intent.

Certainly, the City has turned its back on the shares of overseas traders. By the nature of their business, which in many cases contains a strong element of buccannery dealing in far-off and often politically unreliable markets, they are treated with caution at the best of times.

The managements of these companies are prone to grumble from time to time that their entrepreneurial skills are given insufficient credit. Apart from a few dedicated analysts, the stock market is inclined to regard them principally as a way of playing the commodity or foreign exchange switches.

On both counts the sector is suffering. The shares enjoyed a boom at the beginning of the year, when sterling was hovering near parity with the dollar. But since then the pound has been unconvincingly strong. And soft commodity prices show little sign of climbing out of their present trough.

More worryingly, the tribulations of the US domestic economy threaten to swamp the ring of countries sheltering around the Pacific Rim. Long-term, this should be the world's fastest growing region, but nothing rises in a straight line for ever and the area could be in for a period of convalescence.

However, the falls in the share prices of overseas traders has left several of them on attractive yields, assuming of course that they can keep earning enough to maintain the present level of dividend payments. Alternatively, it is worth considering whether they have sufficient dividend cover to be able to dip into reserves to keep shareholders happy.

The most spectacularly covered dividend in this loosely aggregated sector is undoubtedly Paddy Peck. Mr Asil Nadir's eastern Mediterranean trading vehicle. At 228p the yield of 2.5 per cent is covered no fewer than 10 times. The p/e ratio is 4.8.

## AMERICAN NOTEBOOK

## Long bonds yield may go below 10%

We are now moving close to the time when the long bond yield in this country will go into single digits. The last time this happened was in 1979.

In the great 1982 bond rally yields came close to penetrating 10 per cent but failed to do so when the bond markets became fearful of the inflationary consequences of the money boom instituted in July of that year by a panicky Federal Reserve.

Several 10-year US Treasury bond issues are already yielding less than 10 per cent. The 30-year issues are down to about 10 1/2 per cent.

Intense interest now centres on the development of the T-bond futures contract. The December contract would need to go up to about 84-85 to seal the fate of double-digit long bond yields.

That target does not seem an impossible one for the bond futures. Last Wednesday, the December T-bond contract breached 78 decisively, indicating a breakout from the 74-78 narrow trading pattern for this bond that has applied since early June.

Several factors which I have stressed over recent months, are coming to a point where they may prove strong enough to topple the double-digit bond yield. Among these factors are:

● The acceptance by senior Fed officials, as indicated by the recent remarks Mr Paul Volcker and Mr Preston Martin, the US economy is not

## Park now face character test

By David Hands  
Rugby CorrespondentGloucester.....25  
Rosslyn Park.....6

A searching examination of Rosslyn Park's revival will be made now that they have lost the million of an unbeaten record. In the weeks ahead they play Newport, Worcester and Worcester and if they have the character to shrug off the comprehensive defeat at Kingholm we shall hear much more of them.

Some cynical West Country voices were raised before Saturday, casting doubt on the merit of Park's victorious run. They sounded more cynical after Gloucester had won by three goals, a try and a penalty to a goal in a match dominated by the team that dominated possession. The Park's victory was constantly under pressure, the quality of much of their lineout was dubious, and most important, they could not win the ball on the ground.

Time after time the Gloucester back row laid back excellent tacklers enabling their backs to demonstrate a traditional lack of involvement in midfield. The exception was the scrum, where a young player plagued by injury these last two seasons, but who can time a pass and make a break.

Gloucester's other good passer of the ball was playing in their back row. Longstaff, a centre before he became a flanker, had a hand in three of Gloucester's four tries. Hard though Mantel tried to match Gloucester's half-winner expertise, too frequently he was a lone Park figure fighting in a lost cause.

There were several unattractive incidents in a first half in which Gloucester took on Park at forward. Preedy and Simon Henderson were spoken to after collapsed from rows. In the second half, Gloucester's captain and Orm received a lecture from Glyn James. Barnett, Park's hooker, once reeled out of a maul clutching his face, and it is significant that in the second half Gloucester took three strikes against the head.

Much to Park's credit, they did not collapse as the score mounted in the second half. Mantel may be lacking in poundage but he is short neither of pace nor courage, and Edwards made himself felt in the house, even though he could win little ball from Orm at the lineout. Jernin's line kicking produced appreciative applause but there were moments late in the game when he kicked away hard-won ball which might, with more profit, have been kept in the hand.

Park flattered to deceive in scoring their first try. Brooks setting up Gary Henderson on the blind side of a five metre scrum. Gloucester made them pay for it by scoring two tries on the blind side of Park's scrum, both going to Morgan. Hannaford scored a try at a wheeled scrum, and Morgan might have had a third had Taylor not belied the Park defenders and reached the line himself.

Showing a raw schoolboyish enthusiasm, their forwards galloped into mauls with a fine disregard for the referee's view of the rules and they inevitably gave away penalties and a lot of hard-won ground. On one occasion Mr Stoddard had to point a penalising finger at as many as four of them in a maul, from over the top of the ball in a maul, from such persistent blunders, defeat is fashioned. And so it was with the Light Blues on Saturday.

They were beaten by a goal, a try and two penalty goals to a goal and two tries in a game that was theirs for the taking. Behind the scrum they possessed sharper wits and a nimble feet than the Scots, who relied on their blunderous of a pack and the bettering-arm activities of their centres to gain advantage.

The Cambridge three-quarter line gladdened the eye with their incisive and intelligent running. They have discovered in Harriman a player with delightful pace and balance, and a feeling of panic in opposing defences whenever he has room to move. He is likely to figure prominently this season.

With Hastings, their captain, playing so well at full back and Bales, their former captain, performing noble deeds on the wing, Cambridge have had to try to convert Thomas, formerly of Swansea, to a stand-off. He is gradually adapting his skills, making good use of a long pass which carries the ball far away from the predatory proclivities of back-row forwards.

Harriman and Kelly scored a try apiece in a game that was theirs for the taking. Behind the scrum they possessed sharper wits and a nimble feet than the Scots, who relied on their blunderous of a pack and the bettering-arm activities of their centres to gain advantage.

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## RUGBY UNION: LEADING CLUBS LOSE THEIR UNBEATEN RECORDS



Flying high: Koli Rakoriko soars above the rest to win the ball in a lineout

## Cambridge study in profligacy

By Bryan Stiles

London Scottish.....16  
Cambridge University.....14

After the profligate way in which the Cambridge pack repeatedly conceded territory to the Scots, it is tempting to suggest that they join their right-wing colleagues, Harriman, in giving away penalties and a lot of hard-won ground. On one occasion Mr Stoddard had to point a penalising finger at as many as four of them in a maul, from such persistent blunders, defeat is fashioned. And so it was with the Light Blues on Saturday.

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## Sunny islanders on road to record set 15 years ago

By Gordon Allan

London Welsh.....9  
Fijians.....22

London Welsh in their centenary season. The Fijian way of rugby. A crisp, sunny afternoon. The sort of multitude that used to come and watch John Dawes and company in the great years. There should have been much to remember from the match at Old Deer Park on Saturday but we were left with scraps.

The Fijians won by two goals, a try and two penalty goals to three penalties. Frequent were the stoppages for injury and kept, for the most part, was the covering. Everybody tried hard. A few South Sea bubbles were blown in the air, and the Welsh entered into the spirit. But there was little scope or flow to the play.

After a groping start, extra speed, instinctive handling, and an eye for the half chance decided it in favour of the Fijians. Their first try exemplified these qualities. Came through the centre, found Rakai, the hooker, at his right elbow, and Niquila took Rakai's pass to score. Hookers are not supposed to be able to keep pace with centres, but all the Fijians took their speed.

The second try was a more orthodox pick-up, drive and touchdown by their No 8 and captain, Teleni, at a scrum near the Welsh line. The third, scored by Niquila, was not a half chance but no chance at all. It seemed, for Welshmen were clustered in front of him at a ruck on their 22 and yet, with a beeline run, he parted them like a red sea. Kubu kicked two conversions and two penalties.

Those were the positive moments. In between were long periods of well-intentioned but abortive running and kicking by the likes of Nawala on the Fijian side and Ackerman on the Welsh, while the forwards fought out a draw. Price kicked the Welsh penalties.

It was the fifth of the Fijians' tour. If they beat Llanelli tomorrow they will equal their 1970 record of six wins, and if they beat Wales next Saturday, but one behind Wales' 1970 record of seven wins.

SCORES: London Welsh: Penalties: Price 3, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 39, 42, 45, 48, 51, 54, 57, 60, 63, 66, 69, 72, 75, 78, 81, 84, 87, 90, 93, 96, 99, 102, 105, 108, 111, 114, 117, 120, 123, 126, 129, 132, 135, 138, 141, 144, 147, 150, 153, 156, 159, 162, 165, 168, 171, 174, 177, 180, 183, 186, 189, 192, 195, 198, 201, 204, 207, 210, 213, 216, 219, 222, 225, 228, 231, 234, 237, 240, 243, 246, 249, 252, 255, 258, 261, 264, 267, 270, 273, 276, 279, 282, 285, 288, 291, 294, 297, 300, 303, 306, 309, 312, 315, 318, 321, 324, 327, 330, 333, 336, 339, 342, 345, 348, 351, 354, 357, 360, 363, 366, 369, 372, 375, 378, 381, 384, 387, 390, 393, 396, 399, 402, 405, 408, 411, 414, 417, 420, 423, 426, 429, 432, 435, 438, 441, 444, 447, 450, 453, 456, 459, 462, 465, 468, 471, 474, 477, 480, 483, 486, 489, 492, 495, 498, 501, 504, 507, 510, 513, 516, 519, 522, 525, 528, 531, 534, 537, 540, 543, 546, 549, 552, 555, 558, 561, 564, 567, 570, 573, 576, 579, 582, 585, 588, 591, 594, 597, 600, 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1170, 1173, 1176, 1179, 1182, 1185, 1188, 1191, 1194, 1197, 1200, 1203, 1206, 1209, 1212, 1215, 1218, 1221, 1224, 1227, 1230, 1233, 1236, 1239, 1242, 1245, 1248, 1251, 1254, 1257, 1260, 1263, 1266, 1269, 1272, 1275, 1278, 1281, 1284, 1287, 1290, 1293, 1296, 1299, 1302, 1305, 1308, 1311, 1314, 1317, 1320, 1323, 1326, 1329, 1332, 1335, 1338, 1341, 1344, 1347, 1350, 1353, 1356, 1359, 1362, 1365, 1368, 1371, 1374, 1377, 1380, 1383, 1386, 1389, 1392, 1395, 1398, 1401, 1404, 1407, 1410, 1413, 1416, 1419, 1422, 1425, 1428, 1431, 1434, 1437, 1440, 1443, 1446, 1449, 1452, 1455, 1458, 1461, 1464, 1467, 1470, 1473, 1476, 1479, 1482, 1485, 1488, 1491, 1494, 1497, 1500, 1503, 1506, 1509, 1512, 1515, 1518, 1521, 1524, 1527, 1530, 1533, 1536, 1539, 1542, 1545, 1548, 1551, 1554, 1557, 1560, 1563, 1566, 1569, 1572, 1575, 1578, 1581, 1584, 1587, 1590, 1593, 1596, 1599, 1602, 1605, 1608, 1611, 1614, 1617, 1620, 1623, 1626, 1629, 1632, 1635, 1638, 1641, 1644, 1647, 1650, 1653, 1656, 1659, 1662, 1665, 1668, 1671, 1674, 1677, 1680, 1683, 1686, 1689, 1692, 1695, 1698, 1701, 1704, 1707, 1710, 1713, 1716, 1719, 1722, 1725, 1728, 1731, 1734, 1737, 1740, 1743, 1746, 1749, 1752, 1755, 1758, 1761, 1764, 1767, 1770, 1773, 1776, 1779, 1782, 1785, 1788, 1791, 1794, 1797, 1800, 1803, 1806, 1809, 1812, 1815, 1818, 1821, 1824, 1827, 1830, 1833, 1836, 1839, 1842, 1845, 1848, 1851, 1854, 1857, 1860, 1863, 1866, 1869, 1872, 1875, 1878, 1881, 1884, 1887, 1890, 1893, 1896, 1899, 1902, 1905, 1908, 1911, 1914, 1917, 1920, 1923, 1926, 1929, 1932, 1935, 1938, 1941, 1944, 1947, 1950, 1953, 1956, 1959, 1962, 1965, 1968, 1971, 1974, 1977, 1980, 1983, 1986, 1989, 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001, 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013, 2016, 2019, 2022, 2025, 2028, 2031, 2034, 2037, 2040, 2043, 2046, 2049, 2052, 2055, 2058, 2061, 2064, 2067, 2070, 2073, 2076, 2079, 2082, 2085, 2088, 2091, 2094, 2097, 2100, 2103, 2106, 2109, 2112, 2115, 2118, 2121, 2124, 2127, 2130, 2133, 2136, 2139, 2142, 2145, 2148, 2151, 2154, 2157, 2160, 2163, 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2664, 2667, 2670, 2673, 2676, 2679, 2682, 2685, 2688, 2691, 2694, 2697, 2700, 2703, 2706, 2709, 2712, 2715, 2718, 2721, 2724, 2727, 2730, 2733, 2736, 2739, 2742, 2745, 2748, 2751, 2754, 2757, 2760, 2763, 2766, 2769, 2772, 2775, 2778, 2781, 2784, 2787, 2790, 2793, 2796, 2799, 2802, 2805, 2808, 2811, 2814, 2817, 2820, 2823, 2826, 2829, 2832, 2835, 2838, 2841, 2844, 2847, 2850, 2853, 2856, 2859, 2862, 2865, 2868, 2871, 2874, 2877, 2880, 2883, 2886, 2889, 2892, 2895, 2898, 2901, 2904, 2907, 2910, 2913, 2916, 2919, 2922, 2925, 2928, 2931, 2934, 2937, 2940, 2943, 2946, 2949, 2952, 2955, 2958, 2961, 2964, 2967, 2970, 2973, 2976, 2979, 2982, 2985, 2988, 2991, 2994, 2997, 3000, 3003, 3006, 3009, 3012, 3015, 3018, 3021, 3024, 3027, 3030, 3033, 3036, 3039, 3042, 3045, 3048, 3051, 3054, 3057, 3060, 3063, 3066, 3069, 3072, 3075, 3078, 3081, 3084, 3087, 3090, 3093, 3096, 3099, 3102, 3105, 3108, 3111, 3114, 3117, 3120, 3123, 3126, 3129, 3132, 3135, 3138, 3141, 3144, 3147, 3150, 3153, 3156, 3159, 3162, 3165, 3168, 3171, 3174, 3177, 3180, 3183, 3186, 3189, 3192, 3195, 3198, 3201, 3204, 3207, 3210, 3213, 3216, 3219, 3222, 3225, 3228, 3231, 3234, 3237, 3240, 3243, 3246, 3249, 3252, 3255, 3258, 3261, 3264, 3267, 3270, 3273, 3276, 3279, 3282, 3285, 3288, 3291, 3294, 3297, 3300, 3303, 3306, 3309, 3312, 3315, 3318, 3321, 3324, 3327, 3330, 3333, 3336, 3339, 3342, 3345, 3348, 335







Football: West Ham's McAvennie continues to set the pace for first division forwards



The killer instinct: McAvennie demonstrates his deadly accuracy as he scores West Ham's winning goal against Everton

An illusive and elusive talent

By Stuart Jones  
Football Correspondent

West Ham United.....2  
Everton.....1

The name of Frank McAvennie is worth remembering. The supporters of West Ham United know it well enough already and in spite of the lack of television exposure, his reputation is spreading beyond the confines of Upton Park. News of his scoring feats could soon be the talk of his native land, Scotland.

His countrymen may be puzzled by his explosive success south of the border. He scored only 18 goals at St Mirren last season, and, in an accent so broad that his words sound as though they are still curled tightly around his tongue, he admits that he missed "a lot more up there". He keeps missing them in training as well. But during Saturday afternoon and the odd midweek evening he has become the first division's deadliest marksman.

"He is a bit special at the moment", John Lyall, West Ham's manager, says. "A natural, sharp, with great control, and a variety of skills. They call it flair, these days. He can bend the ball with either foot, and has proved that he can finish."

For the first 75 minutes the talents of McAvennie, acquired for £340,000 in June, were little more obvious to the crowd of 23,844 than they have been to television viewers this season. Yet in the closing quarter of an hour he justified the generosity both of his manager's initial expenditure, and his appraisal.

The manner in which he burst through at Parry's invitation, drew Southall, flinched to his left and calmly slid the ball into the goal, was impressive enough. The way he took Cotter's cross on his chest, dragged the ball away from Ratcliffe, and drove in the winner eight minutes later was no less notable.

As if to crown his West Ham's revival, he then cushioned Martin's overhead clearance on his thigh and, with a flick as astute as it was gentle, released Ward. Lyall's other close season signing, Southall, in denying him, Devonshire, and then Stewart, brought the match to a relatively uneventful end.

The audience stood in appreciation. Apart from seeing West Ham extend their unbeaten run to a dozen games, they had seen a player who, in their longest since returning to the first division, they had witnessed a fine, if not a memorable fixture. When the respective managers later offered their opinions, one drenched in bitter disappointment, and the other touched by elation, one word kept recurring: Quality.

Martin's display in West Ham's defence, in particular, confirmed that he and not Wright, of Southampton, should be the partner for either Butcher or Fenwick in England's line-up. He has gone from strength to strength since being made captain, Lyall said. Pulling down his socks, a brave decision in view of Everton's bruise challenge, Martin rolled up his sleeves and led the recovery.

Howard Kendall, of Everton, felt that all of his players had contributed to "a quality performance", but his midfield pattern was eventually unravelled. Heath, in his fifth appearance in a withdrawn position, does not appear to belong there. Bracken, clearly missing Reid, became less and less influential. The outstanding figure for Everton was Steven.

After Devonshire had wandered into another blind alley, from which, in times past, he regularly escaped, Steven

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His delighted trainer, Monica Dickinson, said: "Now he will go for the Edward Hamner Chase at Haydock later this month, a race he won last year. He's as good as ever."

Wayward Lad, who retired to some very heavy support before the race, afterwards cut his price from 20-1 to 16-1 for the Cheltenham Gold Cup.

Duke of Milan, who reduced the 15-year-old to a half-price favourite, was a half-price favourite for the 11-year-old gelding at Sandown Park by a full three seconds with a sparkling display of jumping in the Holsten Export Lager Handicap Chase on Saturday. He could be a leading contender for the Grand National next spring.

Nick Gasele, his trainer, said: "He needs three miles and has beaten West Tip, Forgive 'n' Forget and A Kinsman over that trip."

David Nicholson, the trainer, and Paul Scudamore, the jockey, completed a 41-1 success at Chesham. As well as winning the Embassy Premier Chase qualifier with Very Promising (5-2), the partnership was on the mark with Little (1-1), French Union (2-1) and Cottage (9-1).

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## Response to Pretoria press curbs is muted

Continued from page 1

ment of the emergency would also appear to be forbidden. This would seem to include pictures of police and army patrolling in areas where there was no actual violence.

Mr Le Grange said on Saturday that the new measures should not be seen as "curtailing the right of the public to be informed of current events". The Government was "concerned about the presence of television and other camera crews in unrest situations which proved to be a catalyst to further violence".

The media curbs have been strongly condemned by both local and foreign journalists here, through their respective associations, as a step towards a totally controlled press.

The *Sunday Star* described the Government's press curbs as "blind folly". It would neither help the country's image nor promote peace. "The reality is that the ban will result, in many instances, in previous sensational scenes of brutality being played and re-played to world audiences until they become fixed images," the *Star* said.

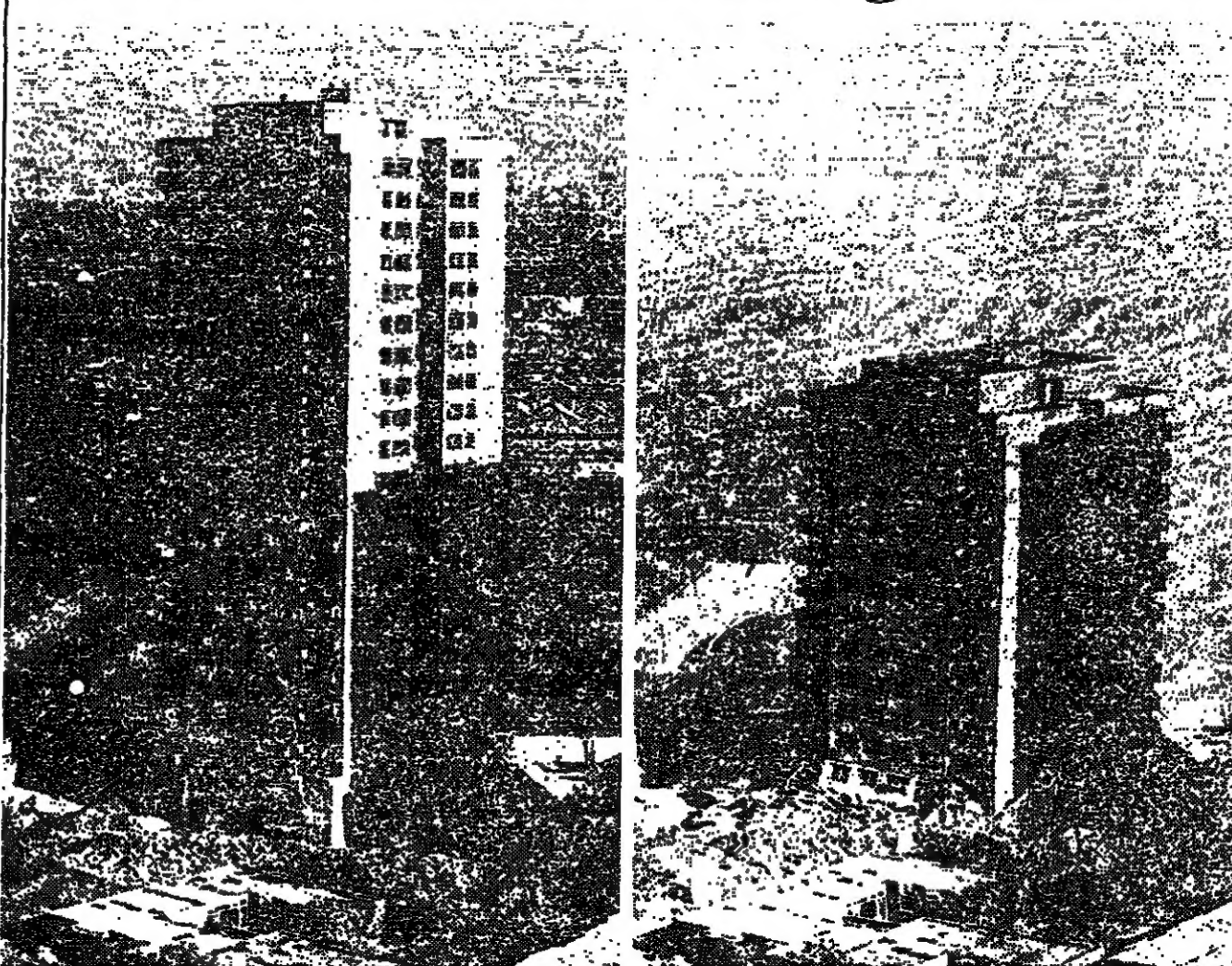
It was true, it said, that "television figuratively telescopes events and actions to give an appearance of anarchy", but "the existence of photographs and film have done much for discipline and much for justice".

The *Sunday Tribune* commented: "From now on, there will be no pictorial record of this tumultuous time in the country's history and the security forces will be able to use all the awesome power they have available without fear that any misuse will be unarguably captured by camera."

President Botha, on Friday announced a nation-wide extension of the indemnity against prosecution enjoyed by the police and army for any action "taken in good faith". This indemnity was previously limited to the 38 emergency districts.

The *City Press*, a paper read mainly by blacks, carried a row of dramatic photographs of riots and police counter-action across the top of its front page above a caption reading: "The pictures we won't be taking and you won't be seeing".

## When the 9th floor became ground level



Puffs of dust billow from the lower part of the block (left) at the start of the explosion which reduced the building to just under half its original size (Photographs: James Morgan).

By Charles Kneivitt  
Architecture Correspondent

A bid to demolish a block of flats in east London by a controlled explosion yesterday failed when 9 of the 21 storeys were left standing.

Ironically, the building was kept standing by the block's outside panels, which have caused misery to the tenants by letting in the weather. The £391,000 demolition of Northside Point, on the Trowbridge Estate, in Hackney Wick, was to make way for the redevelopment of the site with conventional houses and gardens, at a cost of £30 million.

Tenants had campaigned for the block to be demolished because of its history of damp and other problems. The Greater London Council chose demolition because the cost of redevelopment was no more

than the bill for refurbishment at £55,000 a flat.

There were two fingers on the button yesterday, those of Mr Alfred Toye, leader of the local tenants' association, and Peter Tassan, aged 31, son of Mr Tom Tassan, a member of the borough architects department.

Mr Tassan's job is designing low-rise homes in traditional construction which the council, and the GLC, would like to replace all system-built flats.

The whole estate of about 1,000 people was evacuated before the series of blasts. It was the first of six blocks on the estate which are to be demolished.

The estate was built in the French Cabot Borey industrialized building system, licensed by the Department of the Environment.

## Moscow television paves the way for Shultz visit

Continued from page 1

is thought certain to be raised during Mr Shultz's meetings with Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, and later with Mr Gorbachev. Reagan claimed that President Reagan was trying to "push aside" the main issue of "pushing aside" the main issue of regional problems. It added that the USSR was going to the Geneva summit "with the firm intention of holding it in a constructive and businesslike way".

Mr Shultz and his delegation stopped in Helsinki for 36 hours before flying on to Moscow this morning.

Both Finnish and US officials said that the stopover had no political meaning.

Mr George Shultz will arrive in Moscow after a public appearance from President Reagan that his administration has accepted Mr Gorbachev's recent offer of a 50 per cent cut in the strategic arsenals of both sides.

However in his weekend radio address Mr Reagan said he had an "entirely different perception" from the Russians of these reductions. They had to apply to systems that were comparable, and especially to those that would give either side a first-strike advantage.

## Banned spy book on GCHQ is leaked

Continued from page 1

the entire defence system of Britain and the United States, and his punishment was the inclusion of a 14-year sentence to the total of 35 years he faces in prison.

One of the counts against Prime, who admitted espionage charges, alleged that in May 1976 he went to Vienna and passed information. Later that year, and throughout much of 1977, he passed on 500 photographs of secret material, according to evidence at the trial.

It was also said that the information Prime passed to the East included material so sensitive that its revelation could cause "exceptionally grave damage".

Mr Kane told the *Post* that he wrote his book to disclose the laxity of security at GCHQ. Security failures might have led to the death of American soldiers during the Vietnam War.

The leak to *The Washington Post* comes at the end of a week in which the last of seven servicemen working at GCHQ's military outpost in Cyprus were acquitted at the Central Criminal Court of any involvement in espionage.

The Security Commission is still looking at security arrangements on the island and the procedures for protecting Signals Intelligence in the light of evidence that, despite the acquittals, there has been a leak.

Over the weekend, Mr Kane told the *Post* that he had not been involved in the leak to the newspaper, which can only fuel debate about the security of the multi-million pound electronic eavesdropping station run by Britain and the United States.

Mr Kane said that he wrote the book, *GCHQ: The Negative*, after trying to draw "Whitehall" attention to security gaffes and corruption which he says he found as a supervisor with GCHQ.

The book was banned by a High Court injunction last year. Copies were seized from a London publisher and from several British newspapers which were considering serialisation. Special Branch officers went to New York to retrieve other manuscripts.

## Letter from Wad Sheriffe Supermarket city of well-fed refugees

Continued from page 1

Vivid pink flowers, the product of assiduous watering and jealous protection, grow now in the bare dust outside one of Wad Sheriffe's half dozen clinics. Substantial dirt roads have been worn between the rows of shelters and tents.

Their inmates somehow found the wherewithal to acquire a little livestock: donkeys wander the camp's crowded square mile and the odd goat can be found grubbing in the dust.

Sudan's largest refugee camp is now taking on a disconcerting atmosphere of permanence. What was once an emergency refuge has become a food aid shanty town which United Nations officials are admitting may be here for another ten or 12 years.

Its inhabitants, smiling and well-fed, queue for their rations in distribution centres which are as well-organized as Western supermarkets. Each has four check-outs, complete with a maze of wooden barriers to shepherd the Ethiopian refugees every ten days through a series of points to collect their five kilos of cereal, 600 grams of black beans, 600 mls of oil, cake of soap and, on every third visit, a ration of salt and sugar.

The supplies stand on stout wooden pallets in large piles which are regularly replenished from the camp's central stores. At the moment Wad Sheriffe consumes 800 tons of food every day.

The clinics are quiet and efficient too. Malnutrition rates which stood at 50 per cent in February, are even including new arrivals, down to 20 per cent. There is flesh on the cheeks and thighs of adults and children.

The stench so characteristic of these places, a sickly-sweet miasma of odour sweet, faeces and decay, has almost disappeared. The death rate, once more than 100 people a day, is now lower than that of a modern European city of comparative size.

"The problem is what do we do with these people now", says Mr Jim Carl, a planning officer with the UN's Development Programme in Khartoum. "Most of them are refugees from war rather than famine. They cannot go home because

the fighting continues, but because they want to return eventually they cannot be permanently resettled elsewhere in Sudan."

"There is no seasonal labour here, there is not even enough for the native Sudanese. And the land at Wad Sheriffe is so poor that they cannot farm it. What is the alternative to carrying on feeding them, even if it is for 10 or 12 years?"

Some attempts have been made to reduce the size of the huge camp. There are regular plans to ferry refugees to other camps, like the one in Central Region at Fau V created for this purpose. But at the last report Fau V was still empty and the Swiss Disaster Team which has been waiting there since spring was threatening to leave.

The shipment of refugees from Kassala to Central Region is fraught with political complications for the Sudanese.

A further complication is that the Eritreans themselves prefer life at Wad Sheriffe, within sight of the hills of their homeland. Whenever attempts have been made to move them in the past thousands have disappeared overnight into the hills, the surrounding villages or into the town of Kassala itself.

People come and go with such regularity that the number officially registered in the camp is now always out of touch with reality. Official figures at present say 185,000; aid workers estimate around 130,000.

The numbers have been swollen in the past four months by an extra 50,000 refugees from the increased fighting in Eritrea. More than 15,000 arrived in the days after the rebel-held town of Barentu fell to the Ethiopian Army and its Koonamah militia began reprisal executions, according to Mr Mohammed Osman, the Sudanese administrator of Wad Sheriffe.

When last I met him eight months ago he was happily talking about the imminent closure of the place and his return to his vocation as a development agronomist. Today that event seems further off than ever.

Paul Vallely

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

#### Royal engagements

Princess Anne, as President, the Save the Children Fund, visits St Aidan's Playgroup, Hartley Playgroup, 11; and then opens the Summerfield Centre, Birmingham, 12.15.

The Duke of Gloucester opens the Goldsmiths' Company's 150th anniversary exhibition "A Place for Gold", Goldsmiths' Hall, EC2, 6.30. The Duchess of Gloucester, as Patron, the British Library of Tape Recordings for the Disabled, attends their annual meeting, Drapers' Hall, EC2, 4.55.

Princess Alexandra visits the exhibition of paintings by Graham Rust, Alpine Gallery, 74 South Audley St, 3.30.

#### Last chance to see

The World of Bearix Potter.

Lake District, National Park Visitor Centre, Brockhole, Windermere, Cumbria; 10 to 5, (ends today).

Work by Noel Shepherson, Silk Top Hat Gallery, 4 Quality Square, Luton, Bedfordshire; Mon 10 to 5, (ends today).

Recital by Alison Wells (cello) and Katherine Durran (piano), Neue College, Northampton, 7.30. Faure Requiem by choir of Ripon and Wakefield Cathedral and Leeds Parish Church, Town Hall, Leeds, 1.05.

Concert by the English String Orchestra, Chapel, Keele University, Keele, Staffordshire, 8. Recital by Anne Warden (violin) and Frances Collins (piano), St Mary the Virgin, High Street, Oxford, 1.15.

Exhibitions in progress

The Age of Oak, Hags Castle Museum, 10 St Andrew's Drive,

Glasgow, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Nov 17).

Masterpieces of Reality - French 17th century paintings from British collections; Leicester Museums and Art Gallery, New Walk, Leicester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5.30 (ends Feb 1986).

The Spanish War against Fascism in photographs, posters and books, Walker Art Gallery, William Brown Street, Liverpool; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Nov 29).

Netherlandish Drawings, National Gallery, The Mound, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Dec 24). Colour, Rhythm and Dance, paintings and drawings by J. D. Fergusson and his circle in Paris 1910 to 1914; Dundee Museum and Art Gallery, Albert Square, Tayside, Dundee; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, closed Sun (ends Nov 23).

Talks, lectures

The changing ecology of human communities by Dr Robin Dunbar, Room ER 201, Elvet Riverside, Durham University, 5.15.

### Nature notes

The great influx of birds across the North Sea into Britain is continuing. The countryside is full of German blackbirds, Polish starlings and chaffinches from Norway and Sweden. They are mostly indistinguishable from the resident birds, though the immigrant cock chaffinches are a richer pink on the breast. Many shoveler ducks have come in from Central Europe; the drakes are an exotic spectacle as they fly low over the water, with their gigantic spatula-shaped bills.

Flower heads, chestnut and white bodies, and bright red legs trailing under the tail. The slow change of the leaves has made it a much more colourful autumn than last year. Willow trees look as if they were cross-crossed with yellow knives; the crowns of the beeches are a brilliant mass of different tints: hawthorn leaves are orange and purple, rowan leaves are yellow and red. The autumnal colours have still hardly begun to turn: on the alder twigs, the fat new cones are growing next to empty black ones from last season. Last year on the rose-bay willow-herb are turning scarlet; a few tough plants like hawthorn and scabious may already be in flower. D. J. M.

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### Anniversaries

Birch: Guido Reni, painter, Bologna, 1575; William, Prince of Orange, as William III reigned with Mary II (died 1694) 1689-1702, the Hague, 1650; Augustus Toplady, divine, author of "Rock of Ages", Farnham, Surrey, 1740; James Montgomery, poet, Irvine, Ayrshire, 1771.

Deaths: Felix Mendelssohn, Leipzig, 1847; Paul Delacroix, painter, Paris, 1859; Wilfrid Owen, poet, killed in action, France, 1918; Gabriel Faure, Paris, 1924; Discovery of the gunpowder plot, 1605.

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